In The Matter Of:

Donna A. Olson and Robert M. Olson v. Brenntag North America, Inc. et al

March 5, 2019

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2	SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK - CIVIL TERM - PART 7	1	MR. BLOCK: Could you mark these in evidence.
3	DONNA A. OLSON and ROBERT M. OLSON,	2	•
4	Plaintiff,	3	(Whereupon Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 322 was marked
5	Index Noagainst- 190328/2017	4	received in evidence as of this date.)
6	BRENNTAG NORTH AMERICA, INC.;	5	(Whereupon Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 56 was marked
7	BRENNIAG SPECIALTIES, INC., Individually, and f/k/a Mineral Pigment	6	received in evidence as of this date.)
8	Solutions, Inc., as successor-in-interest to	7	(Whereupon Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 330-A was marked
9	Whittaker, Clark & Daniels, Inc., CYPRUS AMAX MINERALS COMPANY,	8	received in evidence as of this date.)
10	Individually and as successor-in-interest to American Talc Company, Metropolitan Talc	9	(Whereupon Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 348 was marked
11	Company, Inc., Charles Mathieu, Inc., and Resource Processors, Inc.;	10	received in evidence as of this date.)
12	IMERYS TALC AMERICA, INC., JOHNSON & JOHNSON CONSUMER, INC.;	11	THE COURT: Ready? Thank you so very much. Good
13	WHITTAKER, CLARK & DANIELS, INC., Individually and as successor-in-interest	12	morning. I understand that with regard to the evidentiary
14	To American Talc Company, Metropolitan Talc Company, Inc., Charles Mathieu, Inc., and	13	issues, plaintiff would like to argue. Go ahead.
15	Resource Processors, Inc.;	14	MS. SAMADI: Yes, your Honor. Margaret Samadi on
	Defendants.	15	behalf of the plaintiff. Your Honor, I would like to make a
16	60 Centre Street	16	few points regarding the adverse event reports discussed at
17	Jury Trial New York, New York March 5, 2019	17	length yesterday. First, we want to point out that Dr.
18	BEFORE:	18	Moline's opinion does not rely solely on Johnson & Johnson's
19	HONORABLE GERALD LEBOVITS,	19	individual adverse inference report, rather as you heard, it
20	JUSTICE	20	relies on her extensive medical education, background,
21	APPEARANCES:	21	experience, reasoned scientific methodology, generally
22	LEVY KONIGSBERG, LLP	22	accepted scientific and medical principles.
23	ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFFS 800 THIRD AVENUE	23	THE COURT: More slowly, please.
24	NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022	24	MS. SAMADI: Generally accepted scientific medical
25	BY: JEROME H. BLOCK, ESQ.,	25	principles regarding the link between asbestos and
	Page 2132	PROC	CEEDINGS Page 2134
1	CONTINUED:		-
2	APPEARANCES CONTINUED:	1	mesothelioma and personal knowledge gained from treating
3	MAUNE RAICHLE HARTLEY FRENCH & MUDD, LLC	2	mesothelioma patients. Many of the cases cited by Johnson &
_	150 WEST 30TH STREET	3	Johnson preclude expert testimony when it is the sole
4	NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001 BY: SUZANNE M. RATCLIFFE, ESQ.,	4	based solely on adverse reports or and nothing else. For
5	CHRISTIAN HARTLEY, ESQ., MARGARET SAMADI, ESQ.	5	example, Heckstall versus Pincus case, that's 797 N.Y.S.2d 2
6		6	445 out of the First Department. There the expert relied
7	PATTERSON BELKNAP WEBB & TYLER, LLP ATTORNEYS FOR JOHNSON & JOHNSON	7	solely on "unverified listings and recording of adverse
8	1133 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036	8	reactions". That's not what's happening here. The same
9	BY: THOMAS P. KURLAND, ESQ., LOUIS M. RUSSO, ESQ.,	9	with Saarai case, S-A-A-R-A-I. In New York case reports can
10	-and- KIRKLAND & ELLIS, LLP	10	supplement opinions based on other substantive evidence. I
11	300 NORTH LASALLE STREET CHICAGO, IL 60654	11	would like to point the Court to Zito versus Zabarsky case,
12	BY: MIKE BROCK, ESQ.,	12	28 A.D.3d 42. And I've given the Court a copy. That's out
13	STACEY GARBIS PAGONIS, ESQ., BARRY E. FIELDS, ESQ.,	13	of the Second Department in 2006. And in that it was held
14	ALLISON RAY, ESQ.,	14	that the trial court errored in excluding causation expert
15		15	testimony that relied upon a single case study coupled with
16		16	generally scientific theory of the dose response
17		17	relationship and other scientific
18	Lori A. Sacco Michael Ranita	18	THE COURT: A little bit more slowly, please.
19	Official Court Reporters * * *	19	Because I'm trying to digest everything you're telling me.

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accepted methodology. So, your Honor, the issue is twofold.

Whether the adverse event reports are admissible and whether

Dr. Moline may reference the adverse event reports in her

testimony. Plaintiffs believe the answer is yes to both

inquiries. But if the Court believes one or the other, the

MS. SAMADI: Okay -- and other scientifically

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answer should be no. I would like to point out that that does not preclude the answer to be yes for the other inquiry.

So first adverse inference or adverse event reports --

THE COURT: Right.

MS. SAMADI: -- are admissible as they are evidence of prior incidents that are substantially the same as the -- as that alleged by plaintiffs. Here its use of Johnson's Baby Powder caused mesothelioma. I won't belabor the cases that --

THE COURT: So, would you be allowed simply to file the complaints and in all those cases, the summonses, the complaints, the pleadings and just give them to the jury?

MS. SAMADI: I don't believe that's the case here, no.

THE COURT: But isn't that a related issue? Because the jurors are going to think wow, there are a lot of people who are suing for this and let's be true.

MS. SAMADI: That's certainly something Johnson & Johnson can bring out on cross and point out. But that's not what we have here.

THE COURT: How do we know all of those complaints are related to the plaintiffs in this case? To Ms. Olson?

MS. SAMADI: Well --

to bolster their interest in saying there are a lot of complaints, therefore there must be something to this?

MS. SAMADI: They are confirmed cases of mesothelioma. And I think it would also require evidence on Johnson & Johnson's behalf that there are all of these members of the bar fraudulently filing cases everywhere. I mean, that would certainly be unethical and improper. If they want to allege that in some way, again it goes to the weight of the evidence. It doesn't go to its admissibility.

I would like to point out, your Honor, this case Berger v. Amchem Products, 13 Misc 3d 335. It is written by --

THE COURT: Yeah. Judge Friedman, sure. MS. SAMADI: Yeah. She wrote a great treaties on some New York evidentiary law. But if you look at her language in that case she cites multiple asbestos cases where case reports are relied upon. Then at the very end she ultimately decides a Frye hearing is unnecessary for what we call the chrysotile defense. That's General Motors for other friction defendants relying on wanting to push out plaintiffs' experts in part because they rely on case studies. At the very end she denies them a Frye hearing and says "Scientist and physicians use various means to establish causation in particular situations, not the least of which are toxicological and pathological studies and

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THE COURT: What's the relationship?

MS. SAMADI: -- I would point to the Bellinger v. Deere and Co. case where it said admitting other evidence in product liability actions is appropriate when the similarity of the accident is based upon the same product at issue. And the same product at issue here is Johnson's Baby Powder. And the same injury at issue here is mesothelioma or cancer. So I would say it is definitely related. And differences, I'm reading from that case, differences in the surrounding circumstances go to the weight to be given to the evidence rather than admissibility. So, Johnson & Johnson is free to point out on cross hey, we don't know anything about these plaintiffs or, you know, what do you know about them. The

THE COURT: Who are they going to cross for the adverse events reports?

fact is, this is a document that came --

MS. SAMADI: Well, your Honor. They have all of the information. So they may have documentary evidence about this. They are certainly free to address it in their corporate representative if they want. They could even, you know, they could even ask Dr. Moline if she shows, although I doubt she does, but this is something that goes to the weight of the evidence.

THE COURT: How do we know that it's not just a lot of plaintiffs' side lawyers filing lots of complaints just

documented case studies."

So, in asbestos, your Honor, this has been -- case studies are regularly relied upon. Yesterday the doctor or my colleague pointed out to the Bogner study in 1960, where there was only 33 cases that was relied upon. And that was enough for a causation to be published. Dr. Moline's own testimony --

THE COURT: Just a moment. I'm wondering whether you're melding the arguments about the case studies with the adverse events reports and whether there is a distinction. Let's first, if it's okay, talk about the case study. Are the patients representative? Because they came to the doctor in the context of litigation, right? Are the case studies of the individuals about whom Dr. Moline can testify with regard to the case studies, are they -- didn't they -- are they representative?

MS. SAMADI: I believe they are. And you heard her yesterday say that her opinion doesn't change whether or not a case comes through litigation or any other factor. So, she said that doesn't matter to her opinion. Insofar as they -- You might think they are self selecting in any way, that is -- again goes to the weight of the evidence and something that Johnson & Johnson can point out and try to disclaim or something of that fact.

THE COURT: Would it -- Do you know whether she

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talked to people with similar usage levels of talcum? MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, could I address that? THE COURT: No. She's doing great. Come on. MS. SAMADI: Of course Dr. Moline can testify to details of people that she has seen. I don't believe we know the amount used in the adverse event reports, but if it is different -- Some of them might state it. I'm not sure. But if it is different, again we have heard testimony in this case from Dr. Moline and Dr. Webber that very small amounts of asbestos in talc can cause mesothelioma. So --so, you know, and that there is no safe level is what Dr. Moline said. So, it doesn't really particularly matter, as long as there is some asbestos.

THE COURT: Were her case studies published?
MS. SAMADI: I do not believe so. But this is her personal --

THE COURT: Were they peer reviewed in some ways?

MS. SAMADI: I don't believe so. Excuse me. I
want to clarify. Are we talking about the 40 and 50 cases?

THE COURT: Yes. I think that there is a
difference between how we're to view the adverse events

evidence and the case study evidence, although both have a
lot in common. There are still plenty of differences. I
want to talk about each one separately. The case studies,
Dr. Moline's case studies.

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the makeup of these products. She is able to give that
 testimony based on personal knowledge.
 THE COURT: I need to know whether there is

THE COURT: I need to know whether there is something that would establish a causal link between -- beyond simple association. So, is her testimony going to be that the patients in these studies have mesothelioma. The only thing that causes mesothelioma is asbestos exposure. The only possible source of asbestos exposure in their lives beyond ambient background exposure is talc. Therefore, their mesothelioma was caused by asbestos in talc rather than something else.

MS. SAMADI: Yeah. I believe she can say that these people had substantially similar exposures to Mrs. Olson. I would like to point back to the Berger case where Justice Friedman said this is not -- this is not new evidence. This is not new science that asbestos causes mesothelioma.

THE COURT: How much asbestos do you think the patients in the other studies were exposed to compared to Ms. Olson's here? Meaning, did she use potentially asbestos contaminated talc products more often, less often, as often as the patients in the other studies? And does that matter? The theory of disease ideology. I need to know what the relationship between the case study -- case studies and Ms. Olson.

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MS. SAMADI: Okay. Sorry. Your Honor, they are not published yet, but they are based on her personal knowledge. And that's another thing that experts are able to testify about. Your Honor, she has published case studies on asbestos and very small amounts of asbestos. I would point to her dental tape study that was peer reviewed and published that she testified about yesterday, and there were only six cases in that -- in that study. She was able to peer review, get that through the peer-review process and draw a causal connection.

THE COURT: How do we know that the people in her study were exposed to asbestos in their talc? Did the -- did the talc itself in the products they use test positive for asbestos?

MS. SAMADI: Well, it's impossible to test products that are already used, but we do have testimony from Dr. Webber and Dr. Longo, I believe, that a large percentage of Johnson & Johnson's talc product would contain asbestos. And oh, and she can give that testimony apparently. She will lay the foundation for that.

THE COURT: How?

MS. SAMADI: Based upon her knowledge of the products used in those cases for her clients that she has seen, just as she did here for the products used in this case. She has looked at internal documents. She does know

MS. SAMADI: That is something Dr. Moline can certainly testify about and lay a foundation for. She is able to say that these cases are substantially similar to plaintiffs in this case. And if they want to cross examine her about how it's how similar, they are -- they are certainly able to do that. That doesn't mean the testimony doesn't come in.

THE COURT: How do I get around the following. How do you get around it. The Appellate Division First Department ruled unanimously in the Heckstall case that case reports are at least in that matter inadmissible. Judge Jaffe cited that case in Juni. Juni also involved Dr. Moline. The Court of Appeals agreed with the exclusions. So that's the --

MS. SAMADI: The Heckstall case merely stands for the proposition that reliance solely on unverified listings and reporting of adverse reactions is unacceptable for causation. That is not what we have here. We have more than the mere reliance on case reports. We have epidemiology. We have her -- her medical testimony and reliance on airborne asbestos exposure from talcum powders. This is not a case -- case where all the case studies is all we have got.

THE COURT: But here's it's the second to last paragraph, the last sentence, "Courts have recognized that

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such observational studies or case reports are not generally
accepted in the scientific community on questions of
causation" citing Polland.

MS. SAMADI: Well I think you have to look at that case -- A few points. I think you have to look at that case in context. That is again just talking about when all they have is case reports and adverse expert or adverse events reports. But more importantly that is -- that is not applicable to a mesothelioma case. Mesothelioma is a very rare disease. I would point the Court to, and I can get a copy if you want, the reference manual and scientific evidence, third edition, 2000 states that physicians have access to case reports in medical literature when considering causation for rare diseases. And they specifically reference asbestos as an example of when that should be used or can be used. So, I think in a case here, where we have what did she say 13 in a million, then, you know, it's -- it's more reliable to rely on case reports. And often for rare cases a study with a specific product is impossible. That's particularly true when so many of the users of the product have no idea that asbestos is in the product.

THE COURT: How do you square your thinking then with Juni?

MS. SAMADI: Two points, your Honor. Unlike Juni

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MS. SAMADI: Your Honor, I would like to point out that unlike Juni here, we have testimony that there can be millions and millions of fibers per gram in a tainted baby powder. Unlike Juni, this is a product we have testimony about, that is a powder that is in the breathing zone and easily breathed by. And nothing is holding it together. There is nothing encapsulating it in any way. So, that is another distinction with Juni.

Your Honor, she relies on evidence in all form. There has never been -- There is never going to be as careful a study and as much evidence of a case report as those that show up in litigation because everything is inquired about. You have direct testimony. You have all kinds of things. So, she relies on evidence in all forms.

THE COURT: Do we have a copy of her report? Of her case studies where she typed it out? Something she just recalls? I understand that it's not published, but what is it -- what does her case study report look like? Do you have a copy?

MS. SAMADI: Well, I think what the Court is calling her case studies is really her personal knowledge and her personal experience that she has learned over the years. So she's certainly able to answer any questions. I'm not aware of a certain document.

THE COURT: There is nothing typed up?

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this is not a case where there is allegations of the
 asbestos was somehow modified. Second -- By a heating
 process. Second, we in this case do have evidence of the
 amount of exposure through Dr. Longo and through Dr. Moline
 I believe and through Dr. Webber. So that did not exist in
 Juni. And that exists here.

THE COURT: What's the causal theory of mesothelioma in Dr. Moline's case studies, is it more than simply well it had to be the talc because people got mesothelioma?

MS. SAMADI: No, your Honor. She relies on much more than that. She relies on published literature and government documents that say the amount of exposure that our client had is sufficient to cause mesothelioma. And substantially similar cases that she has seen that inform her opinion on causation. So, it's much more than these adverse event reports or these case studies. And here I would like to point out, your Honor --

MR. BLOCK: Your Honor.

MS. SAMADI: Your Honor, I would like to point out unlike Juni this is a product that --

THE COURT: Somebody said "your Honor".

MR. BLOCK: I didn't know if you were prepared for
Ms. Samadi to continue.

THE COURT: Yes, I was.

MS. SAMADI: Not that --

THE COURT: Her case studies, it's not written? It's not typed?

MS. SAMADI: It's her experience. It's her personal knowledge of she's seen patients is my understanding in substantially similar conditions.

THE COURT: So, you're -- you're asking that she talk about her other cases?

MS. SAMADI: When they are substantially similar and --

THE COURT: And there is nothing typed up?
MS. SAMADI: I'm unaware of anything typed out.
Again, it's based on her personal knowledge of substantially similar exposures. She's gained in her medical field and her medical practice.

Your Honor, we would like to mark the adverse event reports. We have them in a binder here. They are all tabbed, if we could, for the record.

THE COURT: She didn't write out her observational study or case report or anything like that? It's just something that she knows about?

MS. SAMADI: I mean, in other cases she has. In some of the cases she has written reports. She has been deposed on those cases, but it is primarily based on her personal knowledge as a medical expert who has seen these

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patients. So, is there a single document where she's 2 written all of them up? I don't believe that exists. But 3 there are reports and deposition testimony concerning some 4 of these that she's seen. THE COURT: I thought that this was --5 6 7

MS. SAMADI: I mean, your Honor, it's essentially no different than what she testified about how she had seen somebody who the spouse got mesothelioma when the insulator did not. This is based on her years of expertise and her years of personal knowledge that she has seen with her -her eyes, and she's certainly able to testify about that.

THE COURT: That's not what I understood a case report to be. If she's talking about things which she has personal knowledge, that's very different from accumulating something in a report about the variety of cases.

MS. SAMADI: I think a lot of the case report --

THE COURT: So I -- I --17 18

MS. SAMADI: I think a lot --

THE COURT: Why did I stay up until midnight studying these last night.

MS. SAMADI: Your Honor, I think a lot of the case report, case law goes to the adverse event reports because those can be considered.

THE COURT: Okay. I think, of course, I want to 24 25 hear from Mr. Kurland, but what about the idea of talking to

their common sense. That people don't get mesothelioma from using baby powder.

2 THE COURT: Okay. 3

4 MR. BLOCK: So --

THE COURT: I heard that argument.

MR. BLOCK: -- I would like these marked as a court exhibit, because I think they need to be part of the record, because they show the great detail contained in the event reports. We would ask that this be marked as Exhibit 350 for identification, the binders be marked as 350 -- Let me just identify it for the record. So, event reports one through 25, including the chart, would be 350. Next binder containing 26 to 50 would be 350-A. The next binder containing event reports 51 to 75 would be 350-C. Event reports 76 through 100, 350-D. And event reports 101 through 117 would be 350-E. And I know passed up to your Honor a few of the event reports yesterday, but these are in great detail. They are doing a medical review. They are talking about the possibility of causation being established. They talk about the details of the exposure. And although it's been asserted these are only cases from litigation, that has not necessarily been established as true. And I don't think it matters, your Honor.

(Continue on the next page.)

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Dr. Moline outside the presence of the jury to find out what it is precisely she's referring to with regard to the case 2 reports. 3

MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, as the lawyer putting Dr. Moline on the stand, I want to make one statement, which is that we have in binders Johnson & Johnson adverse events reports, 117 of them. Their tabbed up. They are written out. They contain greatly detailed information about each and every event report showing Johnson & Johnson's knowledge of all the details of these event reports.

> THE COURT: Then it's admissible maybe for notice. MR. BLOCK: I want to make the statement.

THE COURT: And I'm not saying for sure. MR. BLOCK: I want to make a statement. Maybe we could cut it short. If I'm permitted to ask Dr. Moline if she's aware and she's looked at the event reports that Johnson & Johnson has collected and ask her about the significance of those event reports that are written out, that have the details in them that your Honor was asking about, then I would not ask Dr. Moline about, you know, whether she has also seen patients, you know, who have developed mesothelioma after exposure to Johnson Baby Powder and other talcum products. I think precluding both, your Honor, is -- is unfair and not correct under the law, particularly when Johnson & Johnson told this jury to use

MR. BLOCK: So we have -- we could mark these 1 later, but we have these here, if your Honor is interested 2 3 in reviewing them.

THE COURT: Show me.

MR. BLOCK: Okay. Thank you.

MR. KURLAND: We object to these even being marked, but I just wanted to note that.

MR. BLOCK: Well, I would like them to be part of the record. So this is 350, 350A, 350B. Your Honor, can I put a sticker on 350, the book you have.

So I believe there's four notebooks, or five notebooks.

MR. HARTLEY: Five.

MR. BLOCK: And they are marked 350, 350A, 350B, 350C and 350D. And that includes the event reports one through 117. And there's a chart on the cover page of the notebooks.

THE COURT: So tell me again -- I know that I just asked that question -- but why can't I just admit complaints from another action into evidence in this case? What would be the difference?

MR. BLOCK: Because a claim in another action, I think, is seen as an allegation. And Johnson & Johnson --

THE COURT: Isn't that what these are?

MR. BLOCK: No, no. If you look -- if you read the

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adverse event reports, it is a collection of information
that the company has collected. That document confirmed
cases of mesothelioma. And you'll see in the event reports
it says, "Is it a confirmed case of mesothelioma? Yes.

So we have the confirmed case of mesothelioma. Johnson & Johnson admits that in the event report. And then they summarize and identify the exposures.

That's no different, your Honor, than, you know, so, what's Mr. Brock's evidence for telling a jury that there's no evidence of an epidemic of mesothelioma in Johnson's baby powder users?

What is Mr. Brock's evidence for telling the jury that people don't get mesothelioma from Johnson & Johnson baby powder? It's been around for a hundred years. So it is relevant, your Honor, that this is not -- that this is not -- I mean, are we going to engage in a fiction that this is the first person whose ever got mesothelioma, whose only exposure was Johnson's baby powder, or is this going to be put out there for the jury, because we have these event reports, and let them argue the weight of the evidence.

If they want to say, gee, this many million people used Johnson's baby powder, so this isn't a significant number, they could do that. They could have their corporate witness come in and talk about the process of checking the

MR. BLOCK: I'm looking at tab 102, event report in
June 2015. The consumer had recurrent ascites. They are
going through medical records. They are talking about CT
scans. They are talking about the staining for the

scans. They are talking about the staining for the mesothelioma. They are talking about the radiology. They are talking about the medical details of the tumor. There's a summary of all the medicals.

I mean, I'm looking at 102. They are talking about family history, social history.

THE COURT: And that goes beyond what's in the complaint?

MR. BLOCK: Yeah. They are reviewing the medical records. I mean, um:

"QUESTION: Did the event associated with the use of this product cause inpatient hospitalization?"

"Yes." Result. They list it as "serious event." Here, causality. 102, your Honor, tab 102. I could put it on the Elmo.

MS. PAGONIS: Tell us the page. We don't have it. MR. BLOCK: Sure. The page -- actually, the page is produced by Johnson & Johnson. JNJTALC -- JNJTALC000125935. ICH, modified. Causality, possible. So they are listing causality as possible. And I think there is other references to that. They are listing it as a serious event just to tell you, you know, patient case

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event reports, talking about why they collect them, talking
 about who the medical person is who is reviewing them,
 because there is a medical review. You could just see on
 the face of the event reports, they are talking about a
 medical review.

I mean, if you just read one or two of the event reports, you could see what they are doing. They are not just, you know, saying here's what someone claims. They are looking to see if it's a confirmed diagnosis of mesothelioma. And they are assessing causality. And in court they say it's impossible, your Honor. Outside of court in the event reports, they say this is possible.

MR. KURLAND: Can you point to the portion of the event report where they are assessing causality or saying this is possible.

MR. BLOCK: Yes. Yes, I can.

THE COURT: Saying something is possible is different from an admission, but let's hear it.

Let's have a clear answer to this question: Did Johnson & Johnson merely take complaints and analyze them or discuss them, or did they do some additional work?

MR. BLOCK: There is medical record reviews. I mean, here's one. I'm just looking at tab 102.

MR. HARTLEY: Your Honor, you don't have it because Mr. Block had to borrow that to answer your questions.

summary. Someone is doing a patient case summary, and it includes medical, whether it's Shower to Shower or Johnson's baby powder, the staining.

These aren't things alleged in the complaint, your Honor. That it stained positive for WT 1, that it was a diagnosis of mesothelioma.

And then, as an example, you could see -- look at all the medical review, your Honor. All the details of the patient. "On April 29th, 2014, the consumer", the consumer, your Honor. They are customers who use the product. "Underwent CT, abdomen and pelvis with contrast which revealed stable size of large mass in the pelvis." The consumer, your Honor.

They say, oh, this is just plaintiffs. They are customers. "The consumer underwent biopsy of cervix mass which revealed..." and then it's a big summary.

So, your Honor, they have made the decision to collect the information, to have a medical review of the information. They've assessed causality as possible. In court they say it's impossible. In court they tell jurors that this is the only person. Use your common sense, if this really caused mesothelioma, you and your family, and all the people who use this would be dropping dead.

In the meantime, we have -- this is a 37-page event report, your Honor. Still on tab 102. "An unspecified CT

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scan showed stable disease." They are keeping track of thecourse of disease for each and every person.

I mean, look at this, your Honor. They have a coding system for it. Look at this: "Asbestos exposure inhalation or ingested asbestos dust and fibers."

I'm in tab 103. On all of them, your Honor, that I've seen, possible. Causality, possible. So, they are having medical people -- this is outside of court -- and the conclusion that their medical people have come to is that all these people are getting mesothelioma who used our product. "Our consumers." "Our customers." And they have -- and their assessment is that causation is possible.

They are listing this as a medical adverse event. It's hard to get this, but 103, it says -- and no one knows more about these events than Johnson & Johnson. I mean, they are able to come into court having reviewed all these medical records in all these cases, having access to the information in these cases, and explain anything they want that goes to the weight of the evidence. We, on the other hand, only have, you know, what they put up in these event reports.

So 104, same thing. Causality, possible. So, I just went to three, 102, 103, 104. We could go through all 117, but I think you get the picture, your Honor. This is not a memo inside Johnson & Johnson where they said, oh,

and they want to -- the jury to think that Ms. Olson is the first person who -- the first Johnson baby powder user whose ever gotten mesothelioma, and that's not true. And if they didn't think these event reports were important --

THE COURT: How are you going use the event reports?

MR. BLOCK: Well, Dr. Moline -- I just planned on asking Dr. Moline a few questions. You know, um, you know, is looking at event reports that are kept about a product in looking at a rare disease like mesothelioma something, you know, that you view as significant?

Yes.

Why is that?

Because mesothelioma is a rare disease, so if there is a collection of a large number of event reports, it is significant from an occupational and environmental medicine standpoint.

And have you reviewed event reports that Johnson & Johnson has regarding the disease, mesothelioma? And I think she'll say, yes.

And in those event reports, does it indicate whether the person used Johnson's baby powder or Shower to Shower within the known latency period for developing the disease, mesothelioma?

Yes, it does.

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here's 117 cases that we've been sued in. It's not even clear that in all these cases the information came from a lawsuit. But even if it did, your Honor, they've gone beyond cataloging being sued. And they are having a medical person go through all the medical records in detail, and they are assessing causality as possible.

And they are going through sort of a decision treatise in evaluating causality outside of court. That is different. I don't see in these event reports their in court arguments that miners and millers aren't getting mesothelioma, and therefore, these are rejected as not causal. And it would definitely be admissible for notice, your Honor. And certainly -- I mean, why would a medical doctor not ordinarily rely upon event reports that are contained in the file of the company?

THE COURT: Except that the notice issue, and it's true, although that's always a possibility, but this was after Ms. Olson stopped using the product.

MR. KURLAND: Correct, your Honor.

MR. BLOCK: I would just say, these are -- I would say -- what I should've said is that it rebuts their causation defense and it rebuts their claim that other people are not getting sick. I mean, they did tell the jury that, your Honor. And -- and -- well, their position is that if mesothelioma can never be caused by their product,

And does it indicate the years in which these event reports were collected for? And it's primarily 2016 to 2018, and it's about 40 cases per year from 2016 to 2019.

And what is the significance of that from an occupational and environmental medicine standpoint?

And I believe Dr. Moline will say that it's significant because mesothelioma is a very rare disease, and that number, 40 per year, is about ten percent, or approaching ten percent in terms of the women who are diagnosed with mesothelioma each year in the United States.

So just as Dr. Moline testified that when she identified cases of dentists that -- that that was significant, and she reported on that in the literature that the dentists had developed mesothelioma -- and by the way, that was -- those were disputed situations. The dental company said that the mesothelioma wasn't caused by the dental products, but she identified those sources of exposure. The people developed mesothelioma, and that was published in the American Journal of Industrial Medicine as an important case series that showed -- or that supported causation.

So -- and if they want to claim that they have some legal duty to collect these, I don't believe they do. And there's been no evidence that they do. But why are they doing this, your Honor?

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They are having a medical person assess the facts of these cases. All the medical records assess causality and they are collecting it because this is a real issue. This is a real issue that is affecting their consumers. And they are currently looking at it out of court. And we have the documents, and they've produced it to us, but, your Honor, if I'm able to ask her about the adverse event reports, I don't need to ask her about her personal experience in reviewing other cases where people got mesothelioma where their only exposure was Johnson's baby powder or where their only exposure was talcum powder products.

So I thought it was important, one way or the other, to bring out that this doctor is aware of other cases and that that is significant. And either through her personal experience I should be able to bring that out, or through her knowledge of the adverse event reports.

Thank you.

MR. KURLAND: Your Honor, the questions you've asked this morning reveal the fundamental problem with using this type of evidence. And I want the Court to keep in mind here that the question we are looking at is can these fragments of evidence be used by a causation expert to establish specific causation? And all we know about each piece of evidence here is that it reports use of Johnson's

say, aha, Johnson's baby powder, mesothelioma, must have caused -- you know, the baby powder must have caused the mesothelioma, because your only basis for saying that is there was asbestos in it, but she doesn't really know how much asbestos was in it. And she doesn't know if there was any asbestos in any particular container that Ms. Olson used. And for her to use these to try to bolster the leap she's making is improper, scientifically. It's exactly what the Court said in the Axel case, which is directly applicable here. The fact that mesothelioma is rare does not change the analysis that isolated case reports that --

THE COURT: It might. And that's what's been troubling me. It might, in the sense of the -- please address this, if you would, in that you can have really good studies when it comes to defective machinery or when you have a major drug protocol, but when something is assertedly rare, how do you show a causality?

Could not different standards apply in asbestos cases? And doubly so in asbestos talc cases. Are not asbestos cases treated differently from other cases? Of course they are. We have a CMO that contradicts the CPLR in material ways. There are different rules in asbestos cases. Why wouldn't this be one of them, given the rarity, given the circumstances, given the differences in how there can be experimentation that would show causality in more than the

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baby powder and mesothelioma. It says nothing about a causal relationship between the two things.

And unlike the cases where Dr. Moline has -- has relied on small numbers of case reports to reach opinions on causation, in each one of those cases, she testified about four. We are dealing with a particular product which asbestos was an intentional ingredient at a known level. So the dental tape, small number of people. Dealing with known quantities of asbestos.

Here, the only evidence about asbestos contamination in Johnson's baby powder has come in through Dr. Webber and Dr. Longo and various historical documents mentioning potential tremolite contamination, which we dispute is even asbestos, but for purposes of this conversation that doesn't really matter.

You have wildly varying potential asbestos contamination in these containers. Dr. Longo says he found asbestos contamination in some 60 percent of the containers. That means there's an entire universe of containers, statistically significant universe of containers, that Dr. Longo admits don't contain asbestos. There is a significant amount of talc in the mines that does not contain asbestos. The evidence that has already been educed from the experts shows that. So we are not dealing with any known am amount of asbestos contamination for Dr. Moline to

association.

MR. KURLAND: Your Honor, the rules of court do not change the rules of science, and that's why the court needs to exercise a gatekeeping function. We are not saying that Dr. Moline can't testify at all. In fact, she's already testified that she's applying the same level of intellectual rigor to this case, the same that she would apply in her ordinary medical practice.

What we are saying, these specific pieces of isolated case reports and adverse event reports do not inform a causation opinion. Dr. Moline can say that based on my training and experience and medical profession, I am aware, and believe, and know that incredibly small amounts of asbestos can cause mesothelioma. She can say that.

And plaintiffs other experts can say we believe to a reasonable degree of certainty within our particular fields that it's possible that these containers were contaminated with very small amounts of asbestos.

And then plaintiffs can argue to the jury that we have presented evidence that there can be very small amounts of asbestos. We have presented evidence that very small amounts of asbestos can cause mesothelioma, and therefore, that's what's happened to Ms. Olson. They can argue that with evidence that we are not contesting. It is using these case reports.

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It is using these adverse event reports to say that there are lots and lots of examples where Johnson's baby powder has caused mesothelioma, that's our problem, because none of these establish, in any way, that Johnson's baby powder caused mesothelioma.

And I asked Mr. Block, where in these adverse event reports is there an assessment of causation, and the only thing he points to is this code that says that causation is possible. And "possible" is -- is a question that we are asking this jury to address. "Possible" is a question that is being addressed in all of these cases. "Possible" is why Johnson & Johnson is defending these cases.

And we are not disputing that Ms. Olson has mesothelioma. In none of these case reports is Johnson & Johnson disputing that the people have mesothelioma; that there's a confirmed mesothelioma diagnosis does not touch on the issue of a causal relationship.

And saying that just because a person used Johnson baby powder and got mesothelioma is enough to have evidence of causation, um, is -- is absolutely contrary to the law and contrary to science.

And for what it's worth, I'll point out that the ICH code assessing causality in all of these records is a code that comes from the FDA, it's in their March 1995 guidance for industry document on adverse event reporting,

a mini trial on each one of these case reports about what they say. It's going to look exactly like the larger trial we are having here for Ms. Olson. Each one of these cases is asking the same question, did Johnson's baby powder cause mesothelioma? None of those case reports answer that question. If they answered that question, if they were probative of that question, then perhaps they would be reliable, but they are not. At best, they show a temporal relationship between two isolated facts.

And to the extent that the Court is considering admitting these for notice purposes, you are absolutely right to have observed that virtually all of these, if not all of these, were collected by the company after the period which Ms. Olson testified she stopped using any of the powder products because she was concerned of the risks. So it is not admissible as notice for that.

Even if it were admissible as notice, it certainly wouldn't be able to be used to form the basis of an expert opinion.

And again, what is happening here is plaintiffs recognize that there's an inferential leap that they are asking the jury to make. They have experts that say, we believe there is a small amount of asbestos. They have come up -- Dr. Longo has come up with a calculation about what he believes the amount of asbestos would be released from a

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and the ICH code for causality -- FDA, and I could point you to the regulation, specifically instructs the company to report what the complainant is saying. And every one of these adverse event reports that Mr. Block put on the screen says, comes in through an attorney. All of those medical statements are excerpts from the medical records that the company collects.

Now, do they have a specific regulatory obligation from FDA to collect this medical information in the context of a cosmetic product? I don't know the answer to that, but it doesn't really matter. They do collect it. They collect it for all of their products. Every single thing they sell, they collect the information the same way. And it does not establish causation. It shows that the company is responsibly keeping track of this information.

And Mr. Block keeps saying, they have independent medical experts, independent medical reviewers reviewing these documents. First of all, I personally know that not to be true.

Second of all, I don't think Mr. Block can adduce any evidence that that is true, because it's just repeating what's in the medical records that the plaintiffs provide in discovery.

And I think more importantly, if this type of evidence comes in, we are essentially going to have to have

container of Johnson's baby powder. They point to the Gordon study about Cashmere Bouquet, which comes up with a calculation of fibers released by use of a product which they say contained the same type of Italian talc that was in Johnson's baby powder. They have these pieces of evidence to suggest that a certain amount of asbestos may have been released while Ms. Olson used Johnson's baby powder. Okay. That evidence is in.

Then they have Dr. Moline saying that the certain amount of asbestos that the other experts believe is in the Johnson's baby powder, in her medical opinion to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, is enough to cause mesothelioma. That can come in. Fine.

Now they are trying to backfill this inferential leap, which they are allowed to argue to the jury, and we are going to argue about it too, and that's fine. That's what this trial is about, but they are trying to backfill this inferential leap with the fact that other plaintiffs are filing lawsuits making the same claims. And that is not a scientifically, justifiable basis for an opinion.

And -- and the distinctions with Juni are sort of in opposite. The comparisons to the other studies where they found small amounts of asbestos in particular products with a small number of people are sort of in opposite, because again, in that universe, we are dealing with known

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asbestos-containing products, and we are not dealing with that here. So there is a gap. There is a gap. And that is not the defendant's fault that that gap exists.

This is a difficult question to answer. If this was an easy question to answer, we wouldn't be having this trial right now. But to allow in all this other evidence, essentially that other plaintiffs who have a confirmed diagnosis of mesothelioma and have also used Johnson's baby powder, even if you don't call them other plaintiffs, call them consumers or customers, which is how the business rules recognize -- instruct the adverse event reports to refer to the person claiming an injury from having purchased a product. Even if you don't say they are other plaintiffs, it's still incredibly prejudicial to use this evidence that establishes nothing as a basis for a scientific opinion. And we think the case law is incredibly clear on that.

And I'm happy to address a couple of the other points that were raced, but I don't think we need to take the time.

If the Court has any other questions you would like me to address.

MR. BLOCK: And if you do not have any other questions for Mr. Kurland, I just wanted to show you one bit of information from the event report that hasn't been raised, your Honor.

Ladies and gentlemen, these women who use powder, they get it spontaneously. But in their evaluation of the event reports, they evaluate whether something else could have caused the person's mesothelioma. And they answer the question yes or no.

(Continued on the next page.)

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So looking at event report tab 103. All right.
One of their arguments is how do we know for these people,
these 117 event reports, whether there was some other
exposure that could have cause their mesothelioma. Well,
they evaluate that, too, your Honor.

All right. They have a decision treatise, cosmetic products causality decision treatise. Is chronology incompatible. So the appropriate latency there. So chronology is not incompatible. But then look at this. Is another etiology.

THE COURT: Where are you?

MR. BLOCK: I'm in JNJTALC125957, which is in tab 102, which I'll pass back up to you with the flags. Tab 103, "Is another etiology demonstrated medically" -- "Is another etiology demonstrated medically, validated and documented."

"No."

They reviewed these cases of people with mesothelioma with Johnson's baby powder, and one of the things they assess is, is another cause demonstrated medically, validated and documented. No.

So, your Honor, in court they say oh, women who use talcum powder, they get mesothelioma spontaneously 60 to 90 percent of the time. And the spontaneous mesothelioma is the cause. And they say it's really straightforward.

MR. BLOCK: And here is another epidemiology medically illustrated document, no. They say, your Honor, they review each case and they say whether causality -- how they assess causality. Causality was assessed as possible. They are making an assessment of causality. They're documenting whether there is any other possible cause, and they're listing yes or no, whether the person had any other exposure. So --

THE COURT: Just a second.

MR. BLOCK: So, I could pass that notebook up where I have those yellow flags that I was just reading from. So there is a lot of detail in there, and it's certainly not simply taking what people say happened and just kind of summarizing it. They are making an assessment. They are doing a detailed review. It's inconsistent with their in court position. These are business records of the company that they produced in this case. The only issue right now is whether doctor -- is whether I could lay a foundation with Dr. Moline that looking at these event reports has significance from an occupational-environmental medicine standpoint, given the rarity of mesothelioma. And I think that is the issue that needs to be decided. And we could deal with issues of admissibility in terms of admitting these in evidence or whether they could be used on cross examination with defense experts at a later time. But with

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Dr. Moline here, that's the issue that needs to be decided.
Is this something that with appropriate foundation laid, an

expert can refer to as something that they reasonably and ordinarily rely upon or would rely upon as part of the information that they consider to be important in looking at mesothelioma being caused by this product.

Mr. Kurland is correct in that Dr. Moline has a host of other information that she's already talked about, and she will be able to give a causation opinion based upon all that other information, but we think this is proper. Our medical -- Dr. Moline is here, and we think it's proper for her to give some limited testimony based upon her awareness and review of these event reports.

14 MR. KURLAND: Again, the decision in there is part 15 of an FDA regulation, business rule. A function. There is 16 no foundation for what Mr. Block just said. There is not 17 going to be any foundation in this case, and there is not any foundation for what I'm saying. I just happen to know 18 how the company keeps these records. That is an FDA 19 20 decision where they look to the information that has come in 21 through the course of discovery and break down the information. So, if the information provided through the 22 23 course of discovery in litigation does not provide any other 24 information, then they don't report any other information. 25 But they never reach a causation conclusion. The best they

fine. That's why we're having a trial. But the Court hasan obligation to prevent baseless, nonscientific information

from coming out of the mouth of an expert to confuse the jury. Opinion testimony as a general principle is

disfavored in New York courts. And, therefore it, is
 narrowly curtailed. Experts are allowed to opine within

their expertise, but it needs to be based on reliable
 science. That's exactly what the First Department said in

Heckstall. That's all we're asking here is that the Court
apply the law as the First Department has described it.
This is not a complicated question. These case reports,
these adverse event reports are inadmissible to establish
causation, and we believe they would also be inadmissible
for notice, because they postdate all of the use of this

These case reports are really no different than a complaint with a Bill of Particulars. It's a complaint plus medical records. That's what we have here. They are bare allegations. They are not evidence of causation.

MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, Mr. Brock, this board was separate and apart from what he said to the jury. This board just talks about talc use generally and tries to track it with incidents of mesothelioma. We'll see if they develop a foundation through an expert where they can talk about that. But he flat out told the jury that because this

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particular plaintiff.

come to is possible, and possible does not -- I mean, 1 anything is possible. As I said yesterday, you know, if you 2 have a person who has a color TV and also has diabetes, you 3 can report those two things in a temporal relationship to 4 one another, and it is possible that there is a 5 6 relationship, but there is no scientific basis to assert one 7 of those isolated pieces of information. That's essentially 8 what the plaintiffs are attempting to do here. Dr. Moline 9 cannot create a foundation for these documents. There is 10 not going to be a witness that can create foundation. If we 11 were going to create foundation for these documents, we 12 would be having the same trial that we're having now through Mrs. Olson for every single one of these plaintiffs that are 13

not something that we should be doing here.

And I brought the chart just to be clear.

Mr. Block's statements in opening were based on two things.

The sale of cosmetic talc and the rate of diagnosis. That's what he was talking about. So, it is a red herring to say we have somehow opened the door to all of these other plaintiffs. We're not disputing there are people who used Johnson's Baby Powder that have mesothelioma and claim the two things are related. We are litigating these cases actively around the country, 'cause we don't think there is a causal relationship and the plaintiffs do, and that's

identified in these case reports in this courtroom. That is

product has been around for a hundred years, use your common 1 2 sense and that people are not getting mesothelioma from this disease. There is not an "epidemic" of people with 3 4 mesothelioma from Johnson's Baby Powder. Mr. Kurland, I 5 think, just said that we're not disputing that people who 6 use Johnson's Baby Powder have gotten mesothelioma. Yes, 7 they are. Yes, they are. They have fought and they have 8 made application to the Court. They have said -- they have 9 indicated to the Court that there should be no evidence of 10 anyone else who has ever developed mesothelioma after using 11 Johnson's Baby Powder, okay. And that was -- that was the purpose of their original application, to preclude Dr. 12 13 Moline from talking about other cases that she's assessed. 14 Because they want to create a fiction in this court that 15 Donna Olson is the first customer of Johnson & Johnson who used baby powder and got mesothelioma when in reality 16 17 they're collecting over a hundred cases, they're assessing 18 causality and they are making a statement in each of those 19 whether there is any other possible cause, yes or no. So,

THE COURT: When did Ms. Olson stop using -- MR. BLOCK: In 2015.

MR. KURLAND: Just to be clear, your Honor, we have never said, nor will we say that there is not a person who

we have a lot of detailed information in those event

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has used Johnson Baby Powder and has gotten mesothelioma.

- 2 What we're disputing in this case and all of these cases is
- 3 whether or not the use of Johnson's Baby Powder in and of
- 4 itself is a cause of mesothelioma. We are looking at
- 5 specific causation. And there is a three prong test under
- 6 Juni. There is a clear requirement that plaintiffs induce
- 7 evidence of specific causation. They are using Dr. Moline
- 8 to do that. There are certain things she's allowed to rely
- 9 in forming that opinion. She needs to have a scientific
- expression of that causality. And these case reports and 10
- these adverse event reports are not a scientific expression 11
- 12 of anything, which is why they are routinely excluded as a
- basis for a causation opinion. So, this idea that we're 13
- 14 saying no one who has used Johnson's Baby Powder ever got
- 15 mesothelioma is simply not a genuine statement of our
- position. We are saying that we don't believe Johnson's 16
- Baby Powder causes mesothelioma. And that's the question 17 this jury is being asked to decide. 18

THE COURT: Okay. I just by coincidence opened up, thank you, one of the binders. It's 103. Here the consumer stopped using Johnson's powder in approximately 2003.

MR. KURLAND: Your Honor, I would ask what's the date of the case report, because that would be the relevant question for whether or not it would be admissible for notice purposes. When the company received notice, not when

event number 30000151575. It says date reported 2/19/2010. And 30000133514 says date reported 10/11/2012. Every other one postdates the plaintiff's use. But again --

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THE COURT: In all binders?

MR. KURLAND: Yes. This is all. This list the plaintiffs prepared is all of them. The next one is 1/4/2016 and then they go through 2/24/2017, and all the dates are in that period. Again, even if the Court were inclined to admit these for some sort of notice purpose, putting them in through Dr. Moline would be incredibly prejudicial, because it would imply to the jury with any kind of instruction that it's forming her causation opinion and these are improper to form a causation opinion. So, if the plaintiffs want to put these in through a Johnson & Johnson witness and say well isn't it true that you received this report in 2010, maybe that's one thing. It would be admissible for the fact the report was received, not notice of anything. But it's a completely different thing to allow Dr. Moline to talk about them.

I'll just read from the one that was just referred to by Mr. Hartley, the notes where it reports what the company learned. It says "Consumer was hurt and injured in her health, strength and activity, sustaining serious and severe injuries to her person and body and to her lungs, respiratory and cardiovascular systems and permanent

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the person said they stopped using the powder. 1

THE COURT: Where does it say that?

MR. KURLAND: I believe it's on the first page, your Honor. I don't have the one you're looking at in front of me. I believe there is an entered date on the top.

THE COURT: Yes. This one doesn't have it. MR. KURLAND: Typically there is more information.

THE COURT: I'm sorry. Oh, sure. It's right on the first page where they have the entry date.

> MR. HARTLEY: Your Honor, if you look --THE COURT: February 9th, 2017.

MR. HARTLEY: I'm looking at -- I don't know the number in the binder, but it's event number 30000133514. And on the first page in the upper right-hand side column, the first line, it gives you a J & J awareness date. So, that would be helpful in terms of when they were aware. This particular one their awareness of it was February 19, 2010. And there are going to be a number of others. We would argue that the cutoff date for notice is the date of diagnosis in this case.

MR. KURLAND: Based on the charts that the plaintiffs prepared that they handed up yesterday, I believe it was marked, there are two adverse event reports that they are referring to that have a date prior to the plaintiff's statement when she discontinued using the product. It's

injuries and have caused and continue to cause great physical, mental and nervous pain and suffering and mental anguish, all of her general damage in a sum which has yet to be ascertained."

Now, if that -- if a doctor talks like that, I would be shocked to see it. If a doctor says "damages in a sum yet to be ascertained", I would be shocked to see it. That sounds very much to me this is a cut and paste from a complaint, not a medical investigation of causation, which is what plaintiffs are purporting these are. These are litigation complaints.

THE COURT: Let's take a ten minute break and I'll think about it.

> MR. KURLAND: Thank you, your Honor. (Whereupon a recess was taken.)

THE COURT: Thanks counsel for their excellent argument on these difficult issues. The issue before the Court is whether the adverse event reports may be admitted and whether the case studies may be admitted.

With respect to the case studies, plaintiffs have not shown that Dr. Moline has personal knowledge of other cases through treating patients who have mesothelioma. Plaintiffs do not provide written documents by which the Court can assess the probative value of information about the cases to which Dr. Moline would testify or would show

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that these cases are similar in any way to the one here.

- 2 Dr. Moline may not refer to those other cases in support of
- 3 her opinion on causation.

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- 4 With respect to the adverse event reports, the
- 5 Court similarly concludes that Dr. Moline may not refer to
- 6 those reports as bases for her causation opinion. Court
- 7 finds that defendants argued correctly that the report
- 8 simply reflect the consumer statements, that the consumer
- 9 used Johnson's talcum products, and the consumers' medical
- 10 records showing that the consumer has mesothelioma and does
- 11 not show any causal connection between the two, nor do these
- 12 documents purport to rule out alternative or other causal
- 13 explanations for the consumers' mesothelioma. So, applying
- 14 the First Department's decision in Heckstall,
- 15 H-E-C-K-S-T-A-L-L, testimony about these reports is
- inadmissible. 16
- MR. BLOCK: Can Dr. Moline know take the stand? 17 THE COURT: Yes. Please. 18
- 19 JACQUELINE MOLINE, Ph. D, after having been
- previously duly sworn, was examined and testified further as 21 follows:
- 22 THE WITNESS: I know you guys were talking a lot,
- 23 and there was a lot of hot air probably, but it's freezing in here. 24
- 25 MR. HARTLEY: May I close the window, your Honor.

Direct-Moline-Block A

Yes.

You testified yesterday that published studies 2

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- demonstrate that exposure at a level of one fiber per cc year is
- sufficient to cause mesothelioma, is that right?
- Yes.
- 6 Q All right. So, let's do another number here. So, 0.1
- 7 fiber per cc times one year, okay. And does that equal 0.1
- fiber per cc year?
- Yes. 9
- Q And have published studies demonstrate that even 10
- exposure at the zero point fiber per cc level for one year is
- 12 sufficient to cause mesothelioma?
- A They show that there is a significantly increased risk 13
- at that level, yes. 14
- And how significantly increased? 15
- I believe it's four fold in some studies. In other 16
- 17 studies if you go to about .15 the rates could go up to about 20 fold. 18
- Okay. So -- And so -- And even if the fiber per cc 19
- year level is below 0.1, would there still be a significant 20
- increased risk but it would just be less?
- 22

Direct-Moline-Block

- 23 And is that part of a dose-response effect of asbestos
- in causing mesothelioma? 24
- 25 A Yes. You can look at it that way. Mesothelioma is a

Direct-Moline-Block Page 2180

- THE COURT: Doctor, it's possible a juror might 1 complain about --2
- THE WITNESS: That's fine. 3
- THE COURT: -- if it gets a little bit stuffy. 4
- 5 Maybe we can try to get you a jacket if that happens or
- 6 maybe a juror won't complain and everything will be fine.
- 7 We try to accommodate.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 9 COURT OFFICER: All rise. Jury entering.
- (Whereupon the jury panel entered the courtroom.) 10
- 11 THE COURT: Good morning. And please be seated
- everyone. Thank you. We apologize for the delay. Please 12 continue. 13
- CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION
- BY MR. BLOCK:
- Good morning, Dr. Moline. 16
- MR. BLOCK: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. 17
- 18 THE JURY: Good morning.
- 19 Q Dr. Moline, I want to go back to one point from
- yesterday. You testified yesterday about something called a
- fiber per cc year. Do you remember that? 21
- 22 Yes.
- 23 And we talked about that exposure to 0.1 fiber per cc
- level for ten years, that would equal one fiber per cc year. Do
- you recall that testimony from yesterday?

- 1 dose-response disease where you see it, of all the asbestos-
- related diseases, it's something you can see at the lowest dose.
- And we also know the more of a dose you get, the more likely you
- are to develop mesothelioma. So, for individuals who have had
- even more exposure, their risk is even higher. 5
- Q Okay. And yesterday you talked about the Gordon,
- Millette paper published in the peer-reviewed literature in
- 2014. Where does Dr. Gordon work?
- 9 A At Mount Sinai.
- 10 O Here in New York?
- Correct. 11 Α
- 12 Okay. And you testified yesterday that exposure at the
- level that that they identified of asbestos of being in the air
- when talcum powder is used of 1.9 fiber per cc is sufficient to
- cause mesothelioma. Do you recall that testimony from
- yesterday? 16
- A I do. 17
- Did the authors in the Gordon, Millette article 18
- conclude that exposure to asbestos from talcum powder is capable
- of causing mesothelioma? 20
- Yes. A 21
- Did they? 22 Q
- 23 Α They did, yes.
- Q And do you agree with that? 24
- I do agree with that, yes. 25 Α

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Brenntag North America, Inc. et al **PROCEEDINGS** Direct-Moline-Block Page 2183 Q Yesterday you talked about the amount of baby powder 1 that Johnson and Johnson has found is typically applied, and I 2 think you said 3.7 grams. Do you recall that testimony? 3 4 Yes. 4 documents. Q And have you reviewed Johnson & Johnson documents on 5 that issue? 6 6 I have. 7 7 8 Let me show you what has been marked as Exhibits 319 8 and 320. So, 319 and 320 --9 9 MS. PAGONIS: Your Honor, we do have objections to 10 10 these two exhibits. 11 11 12 MR. BLOCK: Can I lay a foundation before you hear 12 their objection, your Honor? 13 13 THE COURT: Go ahead. 14 14 15 Q Okay. Are these documents based upon the bates label 15 have to get there. that appears on the bottom, are these documents that are 16 16 produced by Johnson & Johnson? 17 17 18 A Yes. 18 Q And are these documents that have Johnson & Johnson 19 19 20 letterhead on them? 20 Α Yes. 21 21 And do these two documents, Exhibits 319 and 320, 22 22 document user studies that Johnson & Johnson conducted or one of 23 the findings that Johnson & Johnson made was the amount of 24 25 On Exhibit 320 there is another -- they talk about talcum powder in terms of the number of grams that is typically Direct-Moline-Block Page 2184 **PROCEEDINGS** applied by a Johnson & Johnson Baby Powder product user? 1 Yes, they do. 2 2 MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, plaintiffs move Exhibits 3 3 4 319 and 320 into evidence. 4 MS. PAGONIS: Same objection, your Honor. 5 5 6 THE COURT: Shall we have a conversation in the 6 7 back. 7 MS. PAGONIS: We shall. 8 8

irrelevant to the issues in this case. And there has been really no foundation other than it has a bates, J & J bates number for this witness to be discussing these two

MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, these are -- these are clearly ancient documents of Johnson & Johnson. They are more than 30 years old. They're on Johnson & Johnson letterhead. They are produced by Johnson & Johnson in litigation. There is no dispute as to authenticity. They were produced from the proper custody of Johnson & Johnson. There is no indication of fraud or invalidity.

As to the hearsay issue, the ancient document rule, they clearly come in. Of course they're likely also admissible under the business record exception. We don't

In terms of relevance, your Honor, Dr. Moline has testified that it is significant in her opinion that Johnson & Johnson has determined that the average amount of baby powder that is applied by women based upon Johnson & Johnson's own studies is approximately 3.7 grams. If you look at Exhibit 319, Johnson & Johnson did a study and they found that the average amount, third paragraph of 319, the average amount of powder applied per application was 6.1 grams for males and 3.7 grams for females.

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(Whereupon the following proceedings were held outside of the presence of the jury.)

THE COURT: Yes. Do I know what these are? Oh, yes. This is what we were walk talking about yesterday. We didn't talk about it much. You just showed it to me.

MR. BLOCK: Right. This is what Dr. Moline testified somewhat about.

MS. PAGONIS: What she's testified to is that it has a J & J bates number on it. We object to both documents 319 and PX 320 on the basis they are both hearsay and to relevance. These documents are surveys or refer to survey and survey results that were done with respect to employees and their use of baby powder. Has nothing to do with the allegations in this case of baby powder containing any type of asbestos. There is no correlation to Mrs. Olson's use of the product and these survey participants who were characterized as heavy users. So, they're completely a study, 60 members, in-house panel participated in a baby home usage study. And if you go to the next page, it says amount used. And you see the female column, your Honor, 3.7 grams. And this is really relevant information. It's relevant to Dr. Moline. It's relevant for the jury in that there has been evidence that there is thousands or millions or even billions of asbestos fibers per gram in Johnson's Baby Powder. And so the amount that is typically applied, Johnson & Johnson has a study about it. We can't go back and measure the precise number of grams that Mrs. Olson used. We know that, you know -- we know that she shook it on her body. We know she shook it on her hand, put it on her body. But Johnson & Johnson did a study. This is the best evidence of the issue of how much is applied, and Dr. Moline has already testified to the jury without objection that she has reviewed Johnson & Johnson historical documents, and they show that 3.7 grams is typically applied. And Dr. Moline testified that the Gordon, Millette study they only applied 0.37 grams. So, that was a light usage, the Gordon, Millette study, as compared to what actual users use according to Johnson & Johnson. This is an admissible document, your Honor, and it should be admitted now. I should be able to proceed with my exam.

THE COURT: Thank you. You have the last word.

MS. PAGONIS: Your Honor, if you look at 319, the

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Page 2187 Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2189 1 first paragraph, and you'll see it's referring to another together with the jury. Is this a document from Johnson & 2 Johnson dated October 18, 1978? report done by a Mr. Newman and his memoranda. So, you have Α Yes. 3 hearsay within hearsay in this document. We don't have the 3 4 Newman report. And again, you know, this is survey results 4 Q And it says here that, um, they had a group, 60 5 of limited people, again having nothing to do with the panelists were identified as probably being heavy users of JBP, 6 allegation of contamination. And these users again Johnson's baby powder, and that they were recruited for a home 7 characterizes heavy users. And no foundation laid for these usage study; is that right? 8 documents. 8 A Correct. 9 MR. BLOCK: It all goes to the weight of the 9 Q It says here, "The average amount of powder applied per application was 6.1 grams for males, 3.7 grams for females, and 10 evidence, your Honor. If they have some other study that's 10 referred to here --4.9 grams for the entire panel." Is that what it says? 11 12 THE COURT: Thank you. Let me just read it, 12 Yes, it does. Then it says that there was a -- they also did some 13 please. (Examining). I'm not troubled by the reference to 13 0 14 Mr. Newman's memoranda dated September 14 and 19, because "motel studies" where they recruited people to apply the baby 15 this is understandable, even without regard to that powder. And they conducted studies at a motel; is that right? reference, it's relevant. These are ancient documents. I A Correct. 16 16 17 don't see any reason to exclude them. They are admitted and 17 Q And then on the bottom they also calculated an average Dr. Moline may talk about them. Thank you. 18 18 amount of baby powder that is used by mothers on babies; is that MS. PAGONIS: Thank you. right? 19 19 20 20 (Continue on the next page.) A Correct. 21 21 And it says here that "The average amount used per 22 22 application by mothers on babies after bathing them was found to be 0.9 grams"; is that right? 23 A Correct. 24 24 25 Q So was the amount that Johnson & Johnson found that was 25 Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2188 Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2190 (Whereupon, the following takes place in open court applied to babies, typically by mothers, was that also more than 1 2 in the presence of all parties and the sworn jurors that are the amount of powder that was used in the Gordon/Millette study 3 properly seated.) which showed a 1.9 fiber per cc of asbestos in the air? THE COURT: Thank you. Objection overruled. 4 4 Yes. 5 MR. BLOCK: So, your Honor, plaintiff moves 5 Q And do these studies look at the different ways women 6 Exhibits 319 and 320 into evidence. Should they be marked 6 and men would apply the powder --7 now or later? 7 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the THE COURT: What do you prefer? 8 8 screen.) 9 MR. BLOCK: The actual marking can take place 9 Q -- on the next page here? later, but they are admitted into evidence. A Yes. 10 10 (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibits 319 and 320 are 11 11 Q It talks about shaking the powder directly from the 12 deemed marked in evidence.) container onto the body, shaking the powder into the hand and THE COURT: Yes. 13 then rubbing on the body. Those were the two most common ways? 13 MR. BLOCK: Thank you. 14 14 Yes. O Dr. Moline, have you seen Exhibit 319 before? 15 15 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the A I have. 16 16 17 Q And is this one of the documents that you are relying 17 Q And is Exhibit 320 similar? Does it discuss similar upon for your statement yesterday to the jury that Johnson & 18 studies by Johnson & Johnson, or I guess in some cases the same Johnson has conducted studies and determined that with respect 19 20 to females, approximately 3.7 grams of baby powder are typically 20 We just looked at a document from October 18, 1978. So applied? now we are going back two years, December 15, 1976. And it 21 22 Α Yes. talks about a "60 member in-house panel participated in a baby 23 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 23 powder home usage study. These panelists were selected because 24 they were heavy powder users."

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Do you see that?

Q And so if we look -- we could look at this document

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- A Yes. I think these 60 folks are referenced in the '78
- memo, and then they did an additional motel study --2
- O Right. 3
- 4 A -- they called it. That looked at additional
- individuals for their powder use. So they were comparing the
- two different groups to see if the powder usage amounts were
- similar, or what they were.
- Okay. 8
- 9 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 10
- Q If we look at this 1976 document, does it indicate that 11
- 12 number 3.7 grams for females?
- Yes. 13 Α
- 14 Q Are those the type of documents, historical documents
- 15 from Johnson & Johnson that you are relying upon when you gave
- the testimony to the jury that the amount of baby powder that
- 17 Johnson & Johnson found is typically applied by users is
- actually about ten times higher than what was used in the
- 19 Gordon/Millette study when asbestos was monitored into the air?
- 20 A Yes, it is.
- 21 Q Okay. Let me go back to where we left off yesterday.
- And we were talking about the fact that even if there is less 22
- than .25 percent of asbestos in talc, that you could still have
- billions of asbestos fibers per gram in that material; is that
- 25 right?

Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

- Q So from an occupational and environmental medicine
- standpoint, what is the significance of a finding of point zero
- -- of .20 percent anthophyllite asbestos, by weight, in
- Johnson's baby powder?
- 5 What's the significance of this finding, in terms of
- from a standpoint of occupational and environmental medicine and
- 7 health?
- 8 A Well, it is showing in a bulk sample that there is a
- percentage that is measurable of anthophyllite asbestos that is
- capable of elaborating billions of fibers into the air, and it's
- -- can cause health consequences. 11
- 12 Q So in terms of the use of the product, what is the
- significance of the fact that this product is being shaken onto
- a person's body, let's say in the chest area, near the breathing zone? 15
- A Well, it's -- it's getting into the air and people have 16 17 the opportunity to breathe it in. Whether it's being put on the chest or below the waist, it still gets into the air.
- But someone pouring a powder that is not bound by 19 20 anything that is, um, is described as like a cloud of dust by 21 many individuals, but it is light and it gets into the air, and it's close to where someone is going to take a breath. 22
- 23 O So let's take like a floor tile that contains asbestos.
- Now, a floor tile that contains asbestos, if you are not
- scraping it or if you are not cutting it, if it's just sitting

Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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- Yes.
- And you talked about a published study by Rohl, from 2
- Mt. Sinai, as one of the bases in your opinion in that regard?
- Yes.
- Q So if we look at Exhibit 44, which is in evidence, and 5
- 6 I'll just put it up on the screen.
 - (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the
- 8 screen.)

7

- 9 Q I'll try to make it larger, Dr. Moline. And if you are
- able to, from sitting there -- I'm going to blow it up. 10
- 11 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was enlarged on the 12 screen.)
- Q Dr. Moline, have you seen this testing, which is in 13
- evidence as Exhibit 44, done by this laboratory, Forensic 14
- Analytical, December 19, 2003, which tested Johnson's baby
- powder for the presence of asbestos? 16
- Yes, I've seen this document. 17
- 18 Q Okay.
- 19 And looking at this document, it says the asbestos, in
- 20 terms of the weight percentage, is .20 percent; is that right?
- A Yes. 21
- 22 Point two zero percent. And it indicates this is in
- 2003. And it finds anthophyllite asbestos in Johnson's baby
- powder; is that correct?
- 25 Yes. A

- there, is that going to be a dusty, powdery product?
- A It is not, because it's bound up in resins and in a
- variety of other compounds that make it so that the -- the
- asbestos is not what we call friable or respirable. So it's a
- 5 totally different type of product.
- Q Is the asbestos contained in Johnson's baby powder, as
- 7 reported here in 2003, is that asbestos friable, as you just
- used the term? 8
- 9 Α Yes.
- And what does that mean? What does the word friable 10 O
- mean as discussed by the EPA and in the scientific literature?
- 12 A "Friable" means it's capable of generating dust. When
- you use it in the term, um, with dusts and asbestos. It has
- some other medical terms, but something that is -- can be broken up and become airborne. 15
- Let me show you Plaintiff's Exhibit 54A. 16
- (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit 54A was handed to the 17 witness.) 18
- 19 O Have you seen Exhibit 54A before?
- 20 A Yes.
- Q Is Exhibit 54A a memo discussing testing of Italian 21
- talc at the South Plainfield, New Jersey Mill, where the Italian
- talc that was used in Cashmere Bouquet and in Johnson's baby
- powder was milled? 24
- MS. PAGONIS: Objection. Leading. 25

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Donna A. Olson and Robert M. Olson v. Brenntag North America, Inc. et al Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2195 Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2197 1 THE COURT: You may answer that. terms of the MSHA finding anthophyllite asbestos in the air from 2 Yes, it is. the talc, and in terms of what they are saying about the O And does this Exhibit 54A identify asbestos in the air percentage of asbestos in that talc? 3 4 from that Italian talc? A Well, it's consistent with the finding that there's a A Yes, it does. 5 percentage of asbestos that can be measured in the Italian talc. MR. BLOCK: Plaintiff moves Exhibit 54A into 6 And then what they were able to do was both measure the bulk 7 evidence. sample and take that bulk sample and see what percent of that MS. PAGONIS: No objection. 8 became airborne. And they were able to measure that on filters THE COURT: It's admitted. 9 in a standard method that is done in -- when one is doing an (Whereupon, Plaintiff's Exhibit 54A is deemed assessment of what would be in the breathing zone of an 10 marked in evidence.) 11 individual. 11 12 So the jury has heard --12 So they are using standard protocols to do the (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 13 13 measurements to see what is actually -- they are taking the bulk 14 screen.) product and then looking to see what goes into the air, which 15 Q -- that Italian talc was used in Johnson's baby powder is, from the health perspective, the important aspect. prior to 1967, in the 1950s, as far back as 1940s, um, through 16 Q It says here at the bottom, the question was asked "Why 17 1967, and that also the Italian talc was used in 1980 when the 17 did Cyprus Industrial Minerals not detect the anthophyllite in Vermont talc workers went on strike. Is that consistent with the Italian talc?" your understanding? And it indicates here, "The answer is that the 19 19 20 A Yes. detection limit for anthophyllite by XRD is only about two 20 percent." Do you see that? 21 Q So here we have, from the 1980s, and let's look at the 21 date. It refers to a visit by MSHA. Who are they? 22 Yes. 22 23 A The Mine Safety and Health Administration. 23 MS. PAGONIS: Objection. Leading. Well, did I read that sentence correctly? Q It's referring to a visit by the Mine Safety and Health 24 24 Administration to Cyprus Industrial Minerals Company, South 25 THE COURT: Overruled. Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2196 Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2198 1 Plainfield Mill, and does it indicate that the MSHA tested You did. personnel, monitored them with air filter, and took air filter What if any concern or significance is there about that samples, that were sent and analyzed by optical and electron from an environmental medicine and occupational medicine microscope, and that the filters reported 5.8 percent standpoint? anthophyllite and asbestiform amphiboles; is that what it 5 A If a result is reported as non-detect, you have to look 6 states? and see what the limits of detection are, because if a method 7 A Yes. doesn't detect small amounts because it's incapable of Q And then lower on the page it states that in terms of differentiating, then they are going to report the result as the percentage of total fibers, that the MSHA found from that 9 asbestos not found in this case. Italian talc being milled, 5.8 percent of the total fibers were 10 Yet, if they use a more sophisticated measurement, they can actually detect that it is truly present, so it would no anthophyllite asbestos; is that what it indicates? 11 12 A Yes. longer be a non-detect. 12 And then are you familiar with, later on in this So if you are using a methodology that has a high limit 13 13 document -of detection, then you don't know what the levels might be below 14 their limit of detection. 15 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 15 So a non-detect does not mean zero. It means that the 16 16 -- that it says that they are estimating that there 17 17 analytical method is not sensitive enough to be able to find it.

would be approximately 0.6 percent anthophyllite asbestos in the

Italian talc? 19

20 A In the bulk talc, yes.

Q So this is 1984, MSHA. And we have a statement about 21

22 point six percent anthophyllite asbestos in the Italian talc; is

23 that correct?

A Yes. 24

25 So how is this document significant to your opinions in

18 Q Let me show you another exhibit admitted into evidence. 19 It's Exhibit 42?

20 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 21 screen.)

Q Again, I want to see if I could project it onto the 22 screen sufficient for you to see it. This is a document that is admitted into evidence, Exhibit 42, which documents testing done

by the FDA on samples looked at by Dr. Lewin.

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Donna A. Olson and Robert M. Olson v. Brenntag North America, Inc. et al Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2199 Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2201 Are you familiar with this testing? that going to compare to the OSHA permissible exposure level of 2 Yes, I am. zero point one fiber per cc? A It's orders of magnitude higher. We know from the 3 And the jury has seen that in this document there is a 3 signature by a Yates, a Mr. Yates, January 2nd, 1974. And then testing that's been done that it's at least -- it's almost 20 an Eiermann from January 1st, 1974. And the jury has seen the times higher. In some case even higher than that. results on this page that I would like to ask you about. 6 Q Let me show you another document that's admitted into 7 evidence. 7 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 8 screen.) 8 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 9 Q It says here, "Examination of talc samples by optical 9 screen.) Q Have you reviewed and seen the paper by Dr. Alice microscopy, according to the method published in the federal 10 register is proceeding." And then is says they tested sample Blount, published in the peer-reviewed literature in 1991? 11 12 84. And Sample Number 84 was found to contain 107 fibers of 12 tremolite/actinolite per milligram. 13 13 0 And are you familiar with a journal, Environmental What is the conversion of that for a gram? Health Prospectus? 14 14 15 I'm sorry. What's the conversion of? Yes. 15 Q Of 107 fibers of tremolite/actinolite per milligram. Q Tell us about that journal? 16 16 It's a journal that is published by the National 17 What does that convert to in terms of a gram? How many fibers 17 of tremolite/actinolite asbestos per gram would that be? Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, which is a division of the National Institutes of Health. A So there are a thousand milligrams in a gram. So it 19 19 20 would be 107,000 fibers per gram. 20 Q And the jury has seen the table showing -- let me see 21 Q Okay. 21 if I could get this? And are you aware, the jury has seen that Exhibit 43 22 22 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 23 identifies Lewin's Sample Number 84 as Shower to Shower --23 screen.) 24 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 24 Q Okay. 25 screen.) 25 The jury has seen the table showing the identification Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2200 Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2202 -- manufactured by Johnson & Johnson. O of tremolite asbestos, needles and fibers, in what is referred 1 to as Sample I. Do you see that? 2 Α 3 Q And what is the significance of the use of a powder 3 Α Yes. Q And is that something you've reviewed before? that contains thousands of asbestos fibers per gram being put 4 onto a person's chest, or a person's underarms, shaking it onto 5 Α It is. 6 their body? What is the health significance of that? And is that something you've considered in your A That when they are shaking it onto the body, it goes testimony -- one of the things you considered in giving your testimony and opinions here today? not only onto the body, but into the air, and they are going to 8 9 be breathing in asbestos. 9 Yes. Q And -- so yesterday I had a one liter bottle. So 10 And if you were a clinician or a doctor and you go to 10 Q vesterday you described that the level of asbestos in the the peer-reviewed literature and you want to know, what is this ambient air or the background air is something like point -- is Sample I that is found to contain needles and fibers of approximately .0001 fibers per cc, and you described that that 13 tremolite asbestos, is there anything in this article that would would be one fiber in ten liters of air? 14 alert the practicing doctor, clinician about what Sample I is? A Correct. 15 15 A No. You would have to contact the scientist to find 16 Q And so when you take a powder that contains thousands out which one -- what Sample I is. You would ask for a key. It 17 or millions of asbestos fibers per gram and you put it onto your 17 might be as an appendix to the article, or it might be provided body, what exposure is that going to create compared to the 18 by the author. 19 level of asbestos in the ambient air? 19 I mean, typically products aren't listed in articles by 20 The orders of magnitude higher. convention. You don't list the brand name of something, unless Q We looked at the OSHA PEL of zero point one fibers per you are doing a clinical trial on the brand name of a drug. But 21

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it's typical to give letters to it. But you want to know the

key. If you had a patient that might have had exposure, you

would want to know what the various samples were.

Q And when you go to the last page of the article --

22

cc, and you talked about how that would be 100 fibers in one

liter of air, and if someone is taking a powder that contains

thousands of fibers per gram, or millions of fibers of asbestos

per gram and it's put on their body and up in the air, how is

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MR. KURLAND: Asbestos.

MS. PAGONIS: Tremolite asbestos. I'm sorry.

In your Honor's order, with respect to the Blount

testimony, you had said that testimony about Sample I from

Ms. Blount -- excuse me, that Dr. Blount found asbestos I to

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Mol	line - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2203	Moline	e - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2205
1	(Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the	1	be J&J is out, excluded. And his question referred to, I
2	screen.)	2	believe, referenced Dr. Blount's finding Sample I containing
3	Q there is no identification of what Sample I is; is	3	tremolite asbestos, which is a J&J product. So it violates
4	that right?	4	the Court's order.
5	A Correct.	5	MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, first of all, I can bring
6	Q But have you seen Exhibit 12, which was produced by	6	out, if they would like, where it says tremolite asbestos in
7	Johnson & Johnson, where their copy of the article, the very	7	the article. So that's the first argument.
8	next page so we have 436. The very next page, 437?	8	The second argument is that Dr. Moline is relying
9	(Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the	9	upon Exhibit 12, which is the key. And I specifically asked
10	screen.)	10	her about her opinions about the finding of tremolite
11	Q Identifies Sample I as being J&J, Johnson's baby	11	asbestos in what has been identified here. The key is
12	powder?	12	Johnson & Johnson's baby powder and the health significance
13	A Yes.	13	of that.
14	Q When was the first time you saw this?	14	And Exhibit 12 has been admitted for all purposes.
15	A I saw the key probably about three years ago.	15	Your Honor specifically ruled that you were not going to
16	Q And was it only after it was produced in litigation by	16	allow Dr. Blount's testimony with the respect to the
17	Johnson & Johnson?	17	identification of Sample I, but that plaintiffs
18	A Yes.	18	THE COURT: Deposition.
19	Q And what is the significance, from a health standpoint,	19	MR. BLOCK: Her deposition testimony. But that
20	of Dr. Blount finding tremolite asbestos, needles and fibers in	20	plaintiffs are free to present evidence from other sources
21	Sample I, which is identified here as Johnson & Johnson,	21	about the identity of Sample I. Exhibit 12, you have a
22	Johnson's baby powder?	22	written order admitting this for all purposes, including the
23	MS. PAGONIS: Objection, your Honor. If we could	23	truth. And I think my question is proper. And Dr. Moline
24		24	is giving expert opinion about asbestos in Johnson's baby
25	THE COURT: Do you want to go in the back or on the	25	powder.
Mol	line - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2204	Moline	e - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2206
,	side?	_	MR. KURLAND: I just will read the Court's
1 2	MS. PAGONIS: The back, your Honor.	1	statement with this regard. The Court's order it says,
	THE COURT: Be right back.	2	"Plaintiffs may not introduce into evidence any statements
3	(Whereupon, the following takes place on the record	4	from Dr. Blount's deposition regarding Sample I, or argue
5	in the robing room among the Court and all Counsel.)	5	that Dr. Blount's deposition testimony shows that her 1991
	THE COURT: Yes. May I see the document we are		study found asbestos in Johnson & Johnson talc."
6 7	talking about.	6 7	So we are very close to the line here. To be
8	MS. PAGONIS: It's actually an objection to the		specific is a statement elicited from either in the question
9	question, your Honor.	8	or from an answer that Dr. Blount found asbestos in
10	MR. BLOCK: This is Exhibit 12. It was admitted	10	Johnson & Johnson tale in this study. And that is the
11		11	issue.
12		12	The study is in. It doesn't say what Sample I is.
13		13	The key is in. It says what Sample I is. But drawing the
14		14	connection that the key means that Dr. Blount found asbestos
15		15	in Sample I in the study is what the Court said, in our
16		16	understanding of the order, is out.
17		17	So they could use the key; they could use the
18	MS. PAGONIS: Exhibit 12 as a finding of tremolite	18	study, but to connect those dots and say Dr. Moline, is it
19		19	significant to you that Dr. Blount found Sample I to be
20		20	asbestos in this study, that's the inference that the court
20	MD VIDI AND Ashestes	20	assessos in uns study, that s the inference that the court

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is not permitting here. And that is what we are concerned

order. You wrote it so you could be clear to the parties.

You said -- it was a ruling on Dr. Blount's deposition and

MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, your decision is a written

about in this question.

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Moline	e - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2207	Moline	e - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2209
1	those designations. And you said that you felt that	1	And that really goes to if they want it try to
2	Dr. Blount's testimony about Sample I was confusing, or that	2	undermine
3	it was uncertain. And so you weren't allowing Dr. Blount to	3	THE COURT: Let me get your exact question. Let me
4	talk about that in her depositions. You were putting those	4	write it down, how did you phrased it.
5	portions out.	5	MR. BLOCK: Can it be read back?
6	But your Honor, in the same order, admitted Exhibit	6	THE COURT REPORTER: Yes.
7	12 for all purposes, including its truth. And your Honor,	7	THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to think about that
8	specifically said that plaintiff it says here,	8	over lunch. If you ask other questions, or is that a
9	"Plaintiffs may seek to establish, through other evidence,	9	problem?
10	that Sample I in the 1991 study was Johnson & Johnson talc,	10	MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, I will rephrase it to try
11	but not by means of Dr. Blount's deposition." And your	11	to keep going. I will just say, what is the significance of
12	Honor, please.	12	this article identifying tremolite asbestos in Sample I,
13	THE COURT: What other way are you establishing.	13	which is identified in this key as Johnson's baby powder? I
14	MR. BLOCK: I mean, your Honor, it's obvious. They	14	mean, it's identified in the key as Johnson's baby powder.
15	produced the document from their files in a document that's	15	THE COURT: Okay.
16	been admitted for all purposes, and they have the key	16	MS. PAGONIS: Your Honor, one last issue. Not on
17	attached. Whether they wrote it or whether Dr. Blount wrote	17	this exhibit. But Mr. Block showed Dr. Moline Plaintiff's
18	it is irrelevant. It's got A through O, and it says	18	Exhibit 44 and said this had been admitted into evidence.
19	"Johnson & Johnson, JBP."	19	And that's actually not a correct statement. It was only
20	If they want to bring in someone from Johnson &	20	admitted as to notice. I think that is very confusing to
21	Johnson that says that, you know, either this didn't come	21	the jury to hear Mr. Block say that this has been admitted.
22	from Dr. Blount, or the person who wrote it just, you know	22	And Ms. Moline testified, but no instruction was given,
23	got it wrong. If they have a foundation with somebody who	23	because you didn't remind us that it was, you know for
24	could do that, they could do that. But, your Honor, I mean,	24	purposes of notice only. That's the TV station testing that
25	we have the key. And if they want to cross examine	25	was
Moline	e - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2208		Page 2210
1	Dr. Moline, just like they did Dr. Webber. Do you remember?	1	MR. BLOCK: I think we are past that point. And if
2	Dr. Webber, let's look at what she says in the article about	2	we want to take that up later, I think we can, but
3	you know all the different talcs she tested, and does it	3	THE COURT: Okay.
4	match up precisely with the key? And they could try to	4	MR. BLOCK: Thank you.
5	undermine that, your Honor, but this goes to the weight of	5	(Continued on the next page.)
6	the evidence. And the witness is going is taking this	6	
7	document at face value and just giving her medical opinion	7	
8	about asbestos in Johnson's baby powder.	8	
9	MR. KURLAND: It's a very specific thing. The key	9	
10	does not establish that Dr. Blount found asbestos in Sample	10	
11	I, which was Johnson's baby powder. The key, which is	11	
12	admitted, is what it is. And it is a key. And no one knows	12	
13	who made that key that says Sample I.	13	
14	THE COURT: How can you rephrase the question and	14	
15	still get your point, mostly?	15	
16	MR. BLOCK: I don't think your Honor, they are	16	
17	making a factual argument. You know, if they want to argue	17	
18	to the jury that, ladies and gentlemen, even though we	18	
19	produced this article with a key that identifies Johnson's	19	
20	baby powder as Sample I, it's not really Sample I. They	20	
21	could argue that, your Honor. If they want it to cross	21	
22	examine Dr. Moline on that, they could do that, your Honor.	22	
23	But we should not have to adopt their incredible, and it's	23	
24	not credible, position that Sample I is not what they say it is in the document they produced.	24	
25	is in the document they produced.	25	

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THE COURT: Okay thank you. Please rephrase the question.

- 3 Q Okay. Dr. Moline, when you were talking to the jury
- 4 about why asbestos is so dangerous, I believe one of the things
- 5 you talked about was how the asbestos fibers can get up in the
- 6 air, they're aerodynamic, can remain suspended, where they can
- 7 be breathed in and they can get down into and evade the defense
- 8 mechanics and into the lungs. Do you remember all that
- **9** testimony?

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- 10 A Right.
- 11 Q So, what is the health significance of the finding of
- 12 needles and fibers of tremolite asbestos in Sample I in Dr.
- 13 Blount's article which is identified by the key attached by
- 14 Johnson & Johnson as identifying Sample I as Johnson Baby
- 15 Powder? What is the health significance of that?
- 16 A That these -- She identified fibers in the talcum
- 17 powder, needles and fibers is how she described it. And they
- 18 can be breathed in and make it into the lung, and some of them
- 19 will get into the pleural space, and that's where the
- 20 mesothelioma arises.
- 21 Q Thank you, Dr. Moline. Now, Dr. Moline, have you
- 22 reviewed materials relating to Donna Olson specifically in order
- 23 to render an expert opinion as to her diagnosis, the cause of
- 24 her disease, her medical treatment procedures that she's had and
- also her prognosis?

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1 trials. Have you also given what's called depositions?

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- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q All right. Is a deposition when you go to a law office
- 4 or a conference room and there is a court reporter taking down
- 5 the questioning (gesturing) and the defendant gets to ask you
- 6 questions to find out what you're going to talk about in court?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q And when you are requested to give a deposition, is
- 9 that something you have any choice over?
- 10 A No.
- ${f 11}$ ${f Q}$ Okay. And have many companies taken your deposition
- 12 multiple times?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Has Johnson & Johnson taken your deposition on a number
- **15** of occasions?
- 16 A They have.
- 17 Q When do you do most of your medical/legal consulting
- 18 work in these cases? How do you fit that into your schedule?
- A I do a lot of the work in the evenings or on weekends.
- 20 Recently I went with my family on vacation. They were off
- 21 skiing and I was doing work. So, that's how I fit it in to just
- 22 maximize the amount of time I have.
- Q Okay. So, in terms of the materials that you reviewed
- 24 in this case, did you review deposition testimony?
- 25 A I did.

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- 1 A Yes.
- Q And for the work that -- for the time that you're
- 3 putting into this case, are you or the hospital charging for
- 4 your time?
- 5 A Yes.
- Q And what is the hourly rate? And how does it work asbetween you and Northwell Hospital?
- 8 A So, the rate is \$600 an hour. The rate is the same
- 9 whether I'm reviewing or I'm in court. If I'm in court, the
- 10 money all goes to the hospital. Since they are paying my
- 11 salary, the money should go to them, since they would otherwise
- 12 be -- I would otherwise be at work. If it's work that I do on
- my personal time, then I will bill for it separately.
- ${f 14}$ Q And, Dr. Moline, have you testified in many trials in
- cases on behalf of the plaintiff?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q And how far back does that go?
- 18 A I started, it was somewhere around '96, '97 in a
- 19 handful of cases. And it's -- I've been doing it since then and
- 20 it ebbs and flows.
- ${\bf 21} \qquad Q \quad \text{And have you ever been asked to testify for a defendant}$
- 22 in an asbestos case?
- A I've been asked to review cases and evaluate
- 24 individuals, but the case never went to trial.
- Q Okay. And in terms of you, said you testified at

- $\label{eq:Q_def} \textbf{1} \qquad Q \quad \text{And I know that you have an expert report in this case,}$
- and if you need to refer to that at any time, please feel freeto. And whose deposition testimony did you review in this case?
- 4 A I reviewed Ms. Olson's deposition transcript at the
- 5 time I wrote the report and I've also reviewed her husband's
- 6 deposition.
- 7 Q And have you reviewed medical records relating to Donna
- 8 Olson, including related to her mesothelioma?
- 9 A I have.
- 10 Q Have you reviewed answers to discovery where the
- 11 plaintiff has to give answers to certain questions?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q Have you reviewed any other records such as social
- 14 security records that show employment history or anything like
- **15** that?
- 16 A I did
- 17 Q And, Dr. Moline, do you have an opinion within a
- 18 reasonable degree of medical certainty as to the disease that
- 19 Donna Olson suffers from?
- 20 A Yes.
- Q And what disease is that?
- A Malignant mesothelioma.
- 23 Q And where -- what part of her body did Donna Olson
- 24 develop malignant mesothelioma in?
- A In her pleura. In the right pleura to be specific.

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- and Mrs. Olson's deposition testimony, to determine whether
- Donna Olson had any exposures to asbestos?
- Α Yes.
- Q And based upon your review of the materials in this

Q And did you review all of the materials, including Mr.

- case, the medical records, the depositions and all the
- materials, what information did you obtain about Donna Olson's
- history of exposure to asbestos that she had starting from when
- 9 she was very young?
- 10 A Well, she -- her exposure to asbestos came from her use
- 11 of talcum powder. She knew her mother had used it on her when
- 12 she was a young girl, but she specifically remembered it
- starting around age five and remembered that her mom would apply
- 14 the powder directly onto her chest and then rub -- and her body
- 15 and rubbed it in. And it was done after her mom gave her a
- 16 bath. And then at other times when it was warm out and she
- 17 would go out to play and she was hot, her mom would apply it
- 18 additional time.
- Then Ms. Olson used it as she got older. When she was 19
- 20 around eight or nine she started using the powder herself and
- 21 applied it in a similar fashion, where she would put it in her
- hands and put it onto her body, onto her chest and under her
- arms. And she continued to use Johnson's Baby Powder in this
- fashion after she bathed until around 1995, when she switched to Shower to Shower.

- 1 five and then when she started to use it herself, starting from
- about the age of eight or nine, all the way up until 1995, was
- that Johnson Baby Powder, the product?
- 4 That's what she said. She said that was all she
- recalled in her house. 5
- 6 Q And in terms of the use of this product on her by her
- mother and the use of this product herself, up until 1995, the
- use of Johnson Baby Powder, was that described by Mrs. Olson as
- essentially a daily event, a daily practice?
- Yes. 10
- Now, before we get to 1995, in 1991 did you learn from 11
- 12 the depositions that Donna Olson had a daughter?
- Yes. 13
- 14 Q And what did you find out about Donna Olson's use of
- 15 Johnson Baby Powder on her daughter?
- A That she used the powder in the same fashion that her
- 17 mom had used it on her. That she would apply the baby powder
- after she bathed her, until she was able to bathe herself, at
- 19 age eight or nine, just like Ms. Olson.
- 20 Q And did it indicate in Mrs. Olson's deposition that she
- 21 used the Johnson Baby Powder on her daughter until her daughter,
- Kimberly, from the time Kimberly was born until the time
- 23 Kimberly was about eight years old?
- Α Yes. 24
- 25 Q So then in 1995 did you read about Donna Olson

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- Q If I could just stop you there. Now in terms of
- Mrs. Olson's exposure to asbestos, starting when she gave those
- memories from starting at about age five, do you have an opinion
- as to whether young children are more vulnerable when it comes
- to the health effects of asbestos when a young child breathes in
- asbestos?
- 7 A I do have an opinion. One of the factors is what young
- children have also is a life in front of them. And so they have
- a long latency period. So, one of the issues is that as they
- become adults and middle aged and older, they will have had 10
- 11 decades from when they first were exposed. So that's an
- 12 additional risk factor, because they always will have the
- opportunity to have that sufficient latency, in some cases it 13
- could be very long. There is also concern that children may be
- more susceptible to carcinogens at a younger age. Their cells
- are rapidly developing. In fact, that's why there is often a
- 17 factor of ten, when in children's environmental health, sort of standard practice is to lower whatever a permissible exposure,
- although it's not used in that terminology for children, but a 19
- 20 level -- allowable level would be, you lower it by a factor of
- 21 ten when children are involved, because children may be more
- 22 susceptible plus they have a longer lifespan.
- 23 Q Okay. So, just to be clear, based upon your review of
- the depositions in this case, was the product that you described
- Donna Olson being exposed to starting from approximately age

- switching over to primarily Shower to Shower?

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- 3 Q And what did you learn reading the deposition testimony
- about Donna Olson's use of the Shower to Shower product starting
- in 1995? 5
- That she used that regularly. Would apply it in the
- 7 same manner that she had used the Johnson Baby Powder. Put it
- in her hand, applied it to her chest and to her underarms and
- used it on a daily basis.
- Q And did you read in Donna Olson's testimony about any 10
- cleanup activities in terms of the powder that would accumulate
- in the bathroom? 12
- 13 Α Yes.
- And what did you read about that that was significant 14
- 15 from an occupational-environmental medicine standpoint?
- A She would basically clean the powder by putting it onto
- 17 the shower rug or the rug that was in the bathroom and then she
- 18 vacuumed that rug every other day.
- 19 And would that cause additional exposures to asbestos?
- A Yes. 20
- So, I'm hearing about vacuuming. It sounds like well, 21
- you are removing it. But what does the published literature
- 23 tell you about the use of this regular vacuum on powdery
- 24 material that contains asbestos?
- 25 A That you shouldn't use a regular vacuum when you're

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1 removing asbestos, because the active vacuuming it and

- 2 disturbing it will actually not pick up although microscopic
- 3 fibers but instead will put them into the air and have
- 4 opportunity to be breathed in again.
- 5 Q Okay. And based upon your review of Mrs. Olson's
- 6 deposition testimony and her husband's deposition testimony did
- 7 you find that her use of the Johnson's Baby Powder and Shower to
- 3 Shower was substantially similar to the use of the product as
- 9 talked about in Johnson & Johnson own studies on their users
- 10 which talked about how the product users used the product and
- 11 the amount of powder typically used by consumers?
- 12 A Yes.

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- MS. PAGONIS: Objection. Leading.
- THE COURT: Overruled.
- 15 Q Dr. Moline, do you have an opinion within a reasonable
- 16 degree of medical certainty as to whether Donna Olson's use of
- 17 Johnson's Baby Powder and Shower to Shower products and the use
- 18 of those products on her from the 1950s to the early 2000s
- 19 resulted in significant exposures to of asbestos to Donna Olson?
- 20 A Yes.

2

- MS. PAGONIS: Objection, your Honor, based on the argument we made yesterday.
- THE COURT: Please tell me the argument. I didn't hear you.
- MS. PAGONIS: We made yesterday in our motion, just

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 - additional exposures from that activity.
 Q All right. And we have talked about the Gordon,
 - 3 Millette study and airborne exposure found there. And just in
- 4 terms of Donna Olson having this powder put onto her chest, that
- 5 contains thousands or millions of asbestos fibers per gram, what
- 6 is her use of that to you indicate when comparing her exposure
- 7 to the asbestos in the ambient air?
- 8 A Again, that it's orders of magnitude higher. It's --
- 9 it's -- it's so much more significant than what her exposure
 - would be from background.
- 11 Q All right. How would you compare Donna Olson's level
- 12 of asbestos exposure from her use of Johnson's Baby Powder and
- 13 Shower to Shower products from the 1950s to the early 2000s,
- 14 including the use of Johnson's Baby Powder on her by her mother
- 15 and Donna Olson's use of that Baby Powder on her own child, how
- ${f 16}$ would you compare that to the level of asbestos exposure of zero
- 17 0.1 fibers per cc, which is the OSHA PEL that you talked about18 with the jury earlier?
- 19 A It's probably, using the Gordon numbers, it's 20 times
- 20 higher than the OSHA permissible exposure limit.
- 21 Q And do you base your opinion in that regard not only on
- 22 the Gordon study but your review of historical documents,
- 23 finding asbestos in the source talc used by Johnson & Johnson
- 24 for its products, historical documents, finding asbestos in the
- 25 Johnson Baby Powder, Shower to Shower products and the published

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5

8

- 1 reiterating that same objection for the record.
 - THE COURT: Yes. Overruled.
- A Yes. I do have an opinion, and those exposures were significant and capable of causing her mesothelioma.
- 5 Q All right. In terms of Donna Olson's exposure to
- 6 asbestos from the use of Johnson's Baby Powder and Shower to
- 7 Shower products, from her use of the products and the use of the
- 8 products on her and the use of the products on her own baby,9 during the years of the 1950s to the early 2000s, how would you
- 10 compare the level of exposure that Donna Olson would have from
- 11 those products to the level of asbestos in the ambient air?
- 12 A It's -- it's like comparing a grape to a watermelon in
- 13 terms of they're both fruits, but one is very small and the
- 14 other can be very large. I'm thinking of a big watermelon. But
- 15 it's orders of magnitude higher.
- Q When you say "orders of magnitude", that's a scientific term. What does that mean?
- 18 A Well, if we take the urban ambient air level by the
- 19 government, ATSDR is a government agency, we know that what's
- 20 been measured by the government, whether it's MSHA or by other
- 21 scientists has been 10,000 times greater. So, that would be
- 22 orders of magnitude. It's four orders of magnitude more than
- 23 what is seen in the urban air. So, what we're seeing is levels
- 24 that are even higher than one would be regulated in the
- 5 workplace. And there is no protections against cleanup and

- literature as well? You base it on all those things, youropinion that you've just given to the jury?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 MS. PAGONIS: Leading.
 - THE COURT: Repeat the question.
- 6 (Whereupon the above-requested testimony was read7 back.)
 - THE COURT: Sustained.
- Q Okay. In terms of comparing Mrs. Olson's exposure toasbestos from the use of the Johnson & Johnson products to the
- 11 OSHA PEL, what do you rely upon other than the Gordon article?
 12 A There is historical documents dating back to the mid
- 13 50s, mid to late 50s, I think I remember '57, '58, that began to
- 14 measure the amount of asbestos in Johnson's -- Johnson & Johnson
- 15 products and other products that contain the Italian talc.
- **16** Other testing has been done by numerous different laboratories.
- 17 Some hired by the companies. Some done by independent
- 18 scientists at different organizations. People like Dr. Blount
- selections at different organizations. Teople like Dr. Broam
- 19 who found tremolite in -- when she evaluated it for example.
- 20 Based on the MSHA findings. Based on the Rohl description of
- 21 billions of fibers when you have a percentage of .25 by bulk
- 22 weight. So those are some of the factors. Looking at the
- 23 historical documents that have been done on testing of the
- 24 product as well as the published literature up to Gordon in 2014
- as well as other reports of testing that have been done.

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1 Q And are the levels of asbestos exposure that Donna

- 2 Olson had from Johnson's Baby Powder and Shower to Shower
- 3 products sufficient to cause her mesothelioma?
- 4 A Yes.

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- 5 Q And do you base your opinion on the published 6 literature?
- A I base my opinion on the published literature. The
- 8 concept here is she was exposed to asbestos that was contained
- 9 within the product. So, you look at the published literature
- and see how many folks have developed mesothelioma at levels and
- 11 regardless of what the product might be, and that level is
- 12 sufficient to cause mesothelioma.
- 13 Q And was Donna Olson's exposure to asbestos from Johnson
- **14** & Johnson talcum powder products a long-term, frequent exposure
- that she had over many years?
- A Yes. She used it daily. We could add up how many
- 17 times she did it by multiplying the number of days in the year
- 18 by the number of years she used the powder, and it's going to be
- 19 well over 20,000 if we think about using it every day from when
- 20 she was five to up until let's say the year 2000 it's going to
- 21 be 20,000 times or more that she used it. So, that's regular
- 22 and frequent. And she used it on a daily or sometimes more than
- 23 daily basis, both on herself and on her child. So when she was
- 24 applying it to herself, then she also was applying it to her
- child. So, during the years that she was applying to her

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- 2 actually worked in a dentist office. Of course I was interested

A No. You -- I've looked at her work history. She

- 3 in what she did, since I had written a paper about dental tape.
- 4 She was a receptionist. She had nothing to do with the
- 5 formulation of crowns and did not use dental tape. Then she
- 6 worked for CBS Television and was a systems analyst and had no
- 7 exposure to asbestos in the workplace. And then when she had
- 8 her daughter, she chose to stay home with her daughter. So was
- 9 not in the workplace after 1991.
- 10 Q Have you reviewed Dr. Longo's study by his lab,
- .1 Material Analytical Services, which is called the Below the
- 12 Waist Study, where they took a container of Johnson's Baby
- 13 Powder that the lab had tested and found asbestos, and they
- simulated the use of it below the waist of a person?
 - A Yes, I have.
- 16 Q And what is the significance of the fact that Donna
- 17 Olson used Johnson's Baby Powder and Shower to Shower above her
- 18 waist, whereas Dr. Longo with Material Analytical Services did
- the testing with a person using it below the waist?A I mean, it's a matter of a couple feet, but it's close
- A I mean, it's a matter of a couple feet, but it's closer
- 21 to your -- where you breathe, where Mrs. Olson was applying it
- 22 to her upper body and not below the waist. So, Dr. Longo found
- 23 an average of 2.57 fibers per cc even when he was measuring
- 24 individuals who were applying powder lower down on their body.
- 25 Mrs. Olson was applying it higher up. So it would have been

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15

- 1 daughter she, was applying powder twice a day at least.
- 2 Q And when you talked about the Helsinki consensus report
- earlier to the jury, you talked about a brief or low level
- 4 exposure asbestos being sufficient as published in that
- 5 consensus report, how do you apply that when looking at Donna
- ${\bf 6} \quad {\rm Olson's\ long\text{-}term\ exposure\ to\ asbestos\ from\ Johnson\ \&\ Johnson}$
- 7 talcum powder products?
- 8 A Well, it was -- Each incident might be for a short
- 9 period of time when she's actually applying it, but it still
- 10 stays in the air. So, it's not just the actual minute or two
- minutes that it took to apply the powder. It still remains in the air. Then she had additional exposure from cleaning it up.
- But I wouldn't consider decades to be a brief exposure.
- With respect to whether it's low level, as an episode,
- 15 that's not low level exposure, given the numbers that we have
- 16 seen before. They're levels that are capable of causing
- 17 disease. So, she has more than a low or brief level of
- 18 exposure.
- 19 Q The jury will hear Mrs. Olson's testimony. Did you
- 20 hear a lot of questions asked of Mrs. Olson about other possible
- 21 exposures to asbestos?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q And having reviewed Mrs. Olson's deposition testimony
- 24 in detail, did you identify any other possible exposures from
- as as as as a same a same a same a same a same a same a

- 1 closer to her breathing zone.
- 2 Q And do you find, based upon your review of the Gordon,
- 3 Millette study and the Material Analytical Services study on the
- 4 below the waist use of the product, do you find that these
- 5 results are consistent in terms of the release of asbestos in
- 6 the air from the use of talcum powder products that contain
- 7 asbestos?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q Now, I want you to assume that the jury heard that the
- 10 container that Dr. Longo used in this below the waist study had
- 11 15.1 million asbestos fibers per gram, okay.
- 12 A Okay.
- Q So, if the container contained ten times less asbestos
- 14 than that, would there still be a significant exposure?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q If the container contained a hundred times asbestos
- 17 than that, would there still be significant exposure?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q And even a thousand times less asbestos in a container,
- 20 would that still be a significant exposure above normal
- 21 background levels found in the urban air?
 - A It would be.
- Q Dr. Moline, I would like you to assume that Dr. Longo
- 24 testified in this case that when Donna Olson applied Johnson's
- 25 Baby Powder and Shower to Shower, that he calculated that she

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- 1 had about 21,000 applications on herself over the course of her
- life. Is that consistent with what you read in her deposition
- testimony?
- 4 Α Yes.
- Q And I want you to assume that Dr. Longo testified that 5
- when Donna Olson applied Johnson's Baby Powder and Shower to
- Shower, that over -- that on over 50 percent of those occasions
- she would have been exposed to asbestos at the level of
- approximately 0.1 fibers per cc to one fiber per cc. Is that
- level of exposure, based upon your review of Donna Olson's use
- of the product, sufficient to have caused Mrs. Olson's 11
- 12 mesothelioma?
- Α Yes. 13
- 14 O And you base that opinion on the published literature,
- 15 the historical documents and the other sources that you
- supported your opinions with regard to the cause of Mrs. Olson's
- mesothelioma? 17
- 18 Α Yes.
- Q Dr. Moline, have you ruled out other potential causes 19
- 20 of mesothelioma however rare they may be?
- 21 Well, virtually, as we said, virtually all cases in the
- United States of mesothelioma are from asbestos. There is some 22
- individuals, there is -- are being evaluated who have had
- therapeutic radiation, meaning they had treatment for cancers
- and received radiation. Then decades later mesotheliomas can

Direct-Moline-Block A

Yes.

1

- Q And I want you to assume that Mr. Olson will testify in
- this case that the dates on those products that they found, that
- it says on the products one is 2004, one is 2009 and the other
- is 2013. So, let me start with the products that are dated 2009
- and 2013. Are products from that date in your opinion ones that
- would be important to look at in terms of assessing Mrs. Olson's
- the cause of her mesothelioma?
- 9 Α No.
- Q Why not? 10
- 11 As we talked about it yesterday, there is a latency 12 period. So, you don't get disease right after you've had the
- exposure. It can take minimum of let's say ten or 11 years, but typically longer. So, any exposure she had less than ten years
- ago would not be relevant to her current disease.
- 16 Q All right. And in terms of the one dated 2004, it says 17 2004 on the container. Assuming there is no testimony about
- when that container was used or are you able to assess the
- importance of -- of whether any talc used from that container
- would have been important or would have been relevant from a
- causation perspective in this case enlight of the latency
- period? 22
- 23 A It's right on the cusp. She developed symptoms in
- 2016. Don't know when she actually started using, if she even
- used that container. So, it's right on the cusp. I don't think

Direct-Moline-Block Page 2228

- 1 arise in the area that had been radiated. Mrs. Olson never had
- radiation treatments. She did not have a cancer before that.
- So, I ruled that out. She had no occupational exposure. Her
- husband worked at the time that they were knew each other he
- also worked at CBS and then he worked in IT. So, he did not
- have any occupational exposure. I don't recall that her family,
- her parents had jobs that would have exposed her. And there was no other information that I was provided with to show that she
- had -- that she had traveled to Montana where there is asbestos
- in a particular community in Montana. She hadn't traveled to 10
- 11 Turkey, where there is a type of fiber that's been associated
- 12 with mesothelioma. So, there is no other information of any
- other exposure apart from the talcum powder. 13
- 14 Q Did you read deposition testimony that after the Olsons
- found out in 2015 -- Strike that. Did you read deposition
- testimony that the Olsons saw something on TV in 2015 that talc
- 17 could cause cancer and that Mrs. Olson in 2015 promptly stopped
- 18 using talcum powder products?
- 19
- 20 Q Did you read that they went around the house and tried
- to locate all the talcum powder products and throw them away? 21
- 22 Yes.
- 23 Did you also read that Mr. Olson went back during the
- time this case was going on and he ended up finding three
- products that were stored in some closets?

- 1 it would be very important with respect to her disease, because
- mostly because of the latency period.
- 3 Q Were Donna Olson's exposure -- Strike that. Were Donna
- Olson's exposure to asbestos to Johnson & Johnson talcum powder
- products prior to 2004 sufficient to cause her mesothelioma?
- 6 A Yes.

Direct-Moline-Block

- 7 Dr. Moline, are you familiar with the analysis of lung
- tissue in certain cases where you could look at someone's lung
- tissue and see whether there is talc or asbestos in the lung
- 10 tissue?
- A Yes. 11
- 12 And you talked about the Helsinki consensus report, and
- based upon that consensus report and based upon your experience
- and the review of the published literature, you need a lung
- tissue analysis of Donna Olson in order to come to your opinion
- that her exposure to asbestos from Johnson & Johnson talcum
- powder products caused her mesothelioma? 17
- 18 Α No.
- 19 O Is that one of the consensus statements from the
- Helsinki consensus group, that you do not need a lung tissue
- analysis in order to attribute a mesothelioma to asbestos? 21
- 22 A Yes. They say you don't need it. They talk about if you have it, it's helpful or can be informative, but it is
- 24 certainly not a requirement for attribution or causation.
 - Q All right. We'll see more about this when we look at

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Direct-Moline-Block
                                                    Page 2231
                                                                Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)
                                                                                                                     Page 2233
 1 some medical records this afternoon. Did Donna Olson have a
                                                                  1
                                                                              AFTERNOON
                                                                                                         SESSION
    procedure called a talc pleurodesis after she developed
                                                                  2
                                                                                    *
                                                                                          *
   mesothelioma that would pose a problem in looking at her lung
                                                                  3
 4
    tissue?
                                                                  4
                                                                              THE COURT: Doctor, if you would like to come up,
 5
      A Yes. It would -- The talc pleurodesis is done in
                                                                  5
   people with malignant conditions nowadays. Typically it's only
                                                                  6
                                                                             (Whereupon, the witness stepped into the witness
                                                                  7
   used in malignant or terminal conditions to prevent fluid from
                                                                        stand.)
    developing. It's for symptom relief.
                                                                  8
                                                                              THE COURT OFFICER: All rise. Jury entering.
 8
 9
          The installation of talc in the pleural cavity is going
                                                                 9
                                                                             (Whereupon, the jurors entered the courtroom and
                                                                        were properly seated in the jury box.)
10
   to contaminate the field, so that any sample you're going to be
                                                                10
                                                                              THE COURT: Good afternoon, everyone. Please be
    analyzing is going to in all likelihood have talc related to the
                                                                11
12
   installation of the talc that's been placed in there for medical
                                                                12
                                                                        seated.
                                                                              Whenever you are ready.
13
    purpose.
                                                                13
                                                                              MR. BLOCK: Thank you, your Honor.
14
      Q All right. So, in sum, if someone was to take Donna
                                                                14
15
    Olson's lung tissue and analyze it --
                                                                       Q Dr. Moline, the jury has been told that Donna Olson
                                                                15
             THE COURT: I apologize. Why don't you finish your
                                                                    lives in Delaware. Were you able to meet with her personally?
16
                                                                16
17
       question.
                                                                17
                                                                           I was not.
      Q In sum, if someone were to take Donna Olson's lung
                                                                18
                                                                           Did her detailed deposition testimony and the
18
    tissue and analyze it for talc and asbestos, would it be really
                                                                    deposition of her husband, along with the medical records and
19
20
    impossible to determine whether any findings were from the
                                                                     the other case specific materials you reviewed, did that give
21
    talcum powder she used or from the talc they put in her as part
                                                                21
                                                                     you sufficient information to give the opinions that you've
    of that talc pleurodesis procedure after she developed
                                                                     given here today for the jury?
22
                                                                22
23
    mesothelioma?
                                                                23
                                                                       Α
                                                                           Yes.
      A I have no idea how they would be able to separate out
24
                                                                24
                                                                       Q And were you able to gain the type of detail about her
    which is which. The results would not be valid.
                                                                    exposure history that you would have asked if you would have met
                                                    Page 2232
                                                                Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)
                                                                                                                     Page 2234
                                                                     with her personally?
           All right.
 1
             MR. BLOCK: Thank you for letting me finish that
                                                                       A Probably I would have asked questions slightly
 2
       question, your Honor.
 3
                                                                     different because I come at -- from a medical, not a legal
             THE COURT: Of course. Let us resume at 2:15.
 4
                                                                    perspective. But there were certainly many detailed questions
       Thank you so much.
 5
                                                                    in her deposition that allowed me to get a sense of how often
             COURT OFFICER: All rise. Jury exiting.
 6
                                                                    she used it, where she used it, and factors that were important
 7
            (Whereupon the jury panel departed the courtroom.)
                                                                  7
                                                                     to assess her exposure.
             (Whereupon a luncheon recess was taken.)
                                                                  8
                                                                           Dr. Moline, if a person has -- strike that.
 8
 9
             (Continue on the next page.)
                                                                  9
                                                                          If a person has repeatedly had significant exposures to
10
                                                                10
                                                                    asbestos within the known latency period for mesothelioma, and
11
                                                                11
                                                                    develops mesothelioma, is that case of mesothelioma spontaneous?
12
                                                                12
                                                                       Α
                                                                           No.
                                                                           And can you explain that opinion to the jury?
13
                                                                13
                                                                       Q
14
                                                                14
                                                                           Mesothelioma, as we talked about, was a signal tumor
                                                                     for asbestos exposure. So when someone presents with
15
16
                                                                16
                                                                     mesothelioma, the thing one looks for is whether someone had
17
                                                                17
                                                                     asbestos exposure.
18
                                                                18
                                                                          When somebody has information about asbestos exposure,
19
                                                                    particularly someone who has had exposure, or it doesn't even
20
                                                                     have to be over decades, but in this particular case it was
                                                                     exposure over decades, on a daily basis, then they had exposure
21
                                                                21
22
                                                                     to asbestos. So it's not -- you would say it's related to
23
                                                                    asbestos exposure. And you wouldn't use such terminology such
24
                                                                    as spontaneous. You would say it was a mesothelioma caused by
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asbestos exposure.

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Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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- Q And have you ever seen any peer-reviewed literature
- where cases of mesothelioma were documented and it was
- documented that the people who developed mesothelioma had
- significant and ongoing asbestos exposure, and the authors of
- the publication said that these mesotheliomas just occurred
- 6 spontaneously?
- 7 Α No.
- 8 Q Have there been studies that have categorized a certain
- percentage of mesothelioma cases as one in which no asbestos
- exposures were identified based upon the questions that were
- asked or the criteria that was used for that particular study? 11
- 12 Α Yes.
- O 13 And can you give us an example so we could understand,
- of a study in the peer-reviewed literature where they are 14
- looking at people who develop mesothelioma and they are
- categorizing them as having asbestos exposure, or not having
- 17 asbestos exposure, in terms of what they look at and what sort
- of criteria is used?
- 19 A There have been studies that look, trying to assess
- 20 whether someone has worked in an occupation that is known to
- have had asbestos exposure, and that is typically the type of
- 22 studies that have been done where they focus more on jobs where
- there was asbestos exposure. And then they might say, did you
- fit into one of these categories, um, and ask them, or ask the
- individuals with mesothelioma. Often they are asking family

- exposure. I believe they asked about -- in some individuals
- they asked about a para-occupational exposure.
- Q What do you mean by that? 3
- 4 A Did they have a hobby, a home remodeling -- I don't
- believe -- actually, they didn't talk about construction. 5
- 6 O Okay.
- 7 They only talked about demolition. She didn't talk
- about people building. They only talked about people tearing
- down. And we know from the published literature that there are
- hundreds of studies of individuals who build things who had
- asbestos exposure from building with asbestos-containing
- 12 materials.
- 13 Q And you say some of the people questioned, instead of
- -- some or all of the people questioned, were they the person
- with the mesothelioma or were they what are called next of kin,
- like family members? 16
- 17 A So because mesothelioma is a fatal disease, by the time
- 18 they had -- many of the cases are -- some of them had passed on
- and weren't able to complete the questionnaire. So I believe
- over 50 or 55 percent of the folks they had to ask next of kin.
- And next of kin could be spouse, it could be child, it could be
- sibling, it could be friend, and asked them if they knew the
- individual had worked in any of these job categories or may have
- had any other exposure. But they didn't ask about household
- exposures.

Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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Page 2236 Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2238

- 1 members, which is a whole other issue, because family members
- might not have known what folk did, especially the children
- won't know what their parents did before they were born. Um,
- and the spouses often won't know the full extent of what 4
- somebody did in their workplace or whether they had exposure. 6 So there are studies in the literature that have used
- 7 categorizations of jobs that have been associated with asbestos
- exposure, and then asked questions that go from there, haven't 9 delved into household exposures with any specificity.
- Q So I want to ask you about a study that I think the 10
- 11 jury may hear about in the defense case, or maybe on cross 12 examination.
- Are you familiar with a Spirtas study from 1994? 13 14 Α
- Did that study -- how did that study go about 15
- categorizing the people with mesothelioma as being asbestos 16 exposed versus not asbestos exposed. Do you recall? 17
- A This is the type of study I was talking about. They 18
- 19 used eight or -- eight to ten job categories, or industries,
- 20 where asbestos was known to be used in the workplace. And they
- 21 asked if either the individual, that they were alive, or the 22
- people did have mesothelioma, had worked in that job, or in those job categories. They developed something called a job
- exposure matrix where they assigned, whether it was high
- probability, medium or low probability, that they had asbestos

- - O So in terms of the hundreds or thousands of
- asbestos-containing products that were manufactured, for
- example, was there questions about a product called joint
- compound in terms of the people in the study?
- A No. 5
- Q And is joint compound a product that some of the jurors
- might be familiar with, where if you are putting drywall
- together, it goes in the joints of the drywall. You'll apply
- 9 it, sand it down before you paint. Is that joint compound?
- Yeah. Sometimes people call it Spackle, to fill in 10 Α
- 11 holes.
- 12 Q And has joint compound been banned -- has joint compound with asbestos been banned in the United States since 13
- 1978? 14
- A Yes. 15
- O All right. 16
- 17 So in a study like the Spirtas study, do we have any
- information about products like joint compound -- let's say 18
- dental tape. You talked about an article you published in the
- peer-reviewed literature about dental tape. Was that product,
- or a lot of other products that had asbestos in them, asked about in the study? 22
- 23 Α No.
- Q Okay. 24
 - Did the Spirtas study ask about the use of talcum

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Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) powder products?

- Α No.
- So when the Spirtas study says -- does the Spirtas 3 O
- study say that they only identified asbestos exposure based upon
- the job categories they asked about, and based upon what they
- did ask about, but they only identified that for 20 percent of
- the women? 7
- MS. PAGONIS: Objection. Leading. 8
- 9 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 10 Q What did the Spirtas study say about women in terms of the answers to the information that they were asking about in 11
- 12 terms of asbestos?
- 13 A Well, they acknowledged that very few women fit into
- 14 these occupational categories that they used, because
- 15 historically women weren't in many of those trades.
- 16 But with respect to household exposure, they found that 17 only 20 percent of the women fit into the job categories, or the
- exposure categories that they were using in the study. 18
- Q So, did you say 20 percent? 19
- 20 Α Yes.

7

- 21 And so, does this study mean that 80 percent of women
- have spontaneous mesothelioma? 22
- A No. It means in this study they only had information
- about a limited number of asbestos-containing products. And
- they never asked whether women had exposure to other sources of

- Moline Plaintiff Direct (Mr. Block)
 - Ms. Olson did not report any known exposures to asbestos, is
 - that unusual in your experience in terms of whether patients
 - would know that talcum powders contain asbestos?
 - 4 A No, that is not unusual at all. Patients don't know
 - that there was asbestos in talcum powder. So when they are
 - asked, do you know of any asbestos exposure, they would say, no.
 - Q Have you considered epidemiology -- let me ask you,
 - 8 first. Has there been an epidemiology study specifically on the
 - users of cosmetic talcum powder products?

10 So I'm asking about a study where you look at regular users of talcum powder products and you compare their health outcomes for the disease, mesothelioma, with people who did not

regularly use talcum powder products?

- 14 Α No.
- 15 Q And to your knowledge, has Johnson & Johnson ever done
- that study? 16
- 17 Α No.
- So if there's not been a study looking at the disease, 18
- 19 mesothelioma, on people who use talcum powder products versus
- 20 people that did not, how are you still able to conclude that
- Donna Olson's mesothelioma was caused by asbestos exposure from
 - her use of talcum powder products?
- 23 A In the same way that I'm able to conclude that patients
- who have been exposed to asbestos from various sources from
- which there wasn't an epidemiologic study of the end users

Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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- 1 asbestos, such as contaminated talcum powder, to be able to
- answer that question.
- 3 Q And are there many other studies that have categorized
- certain people in the study with mesothelioma as asbestos
- exposed versus non-asbestos exposed, that also did not ask about
- talcum powder when asking about asbestos?
- A Yes. The vast majority of scientific literature does not ask about the use of talcum powder. 8
- 9 Q And based upon your experience in the area of
- 10 occupational and environmental medicine, and in communicating
- with treating physicians and clinicians who see patients on a
- 12 regular basis, has there been awareness in the medical community
- 13 about asbestos in talcum powders?
- 14 A When I talked to my colleagues, they weren't aware that
- asbestos was in talcum powder. I was actually -- I've given
- talks about this to my colleagues in other departments that were
- 17 unaware of it. So it's just not widely -- widely known in the
- medical community. And --18
- 19 Q So when the jury hears evidence in this case that
- Ms. Olson's treating physicians did not ask her about her talcum
- powder use when asking about asbestos, does that surprise you, 21
- 22 based upon your experience?
- 23 A No. In fact, it's more -- it's the norm. Rather, most
- 24 clinicians don't ask about whether someone used talcum powder.
 - And when the jury sees medical records indicating that

- develop mesothelioma, and by looking at whether they had
- exposure to asbestos, looking at levels that have been measured
- and are reported in the literature and in testing, saying was
- there asbestos there? Looking to see how often they used it.
- What kind of exposure they had? How many years did they use it?
- How many years ago did they start using it? Is there sufficient
- 7 latency?
- It's -- you -- I'm treating it as an 8
- 9 asbestos-containing product in the same way that I would
- consider whether a patient coming to see me who had asbestos exposure from using burlap bags that contained asbestos, had
- asbestos-related disease. 12

13 There is no study that I'm aware of burlap bag handlers with asbestos-related diseases, yet this individual had one.

And he could describe that the bags contained asbestos.

16 Okay.

17 And similarly, you told the jury about how you

- published a study on dentists that developed mesothelioma from dental tape use, even though there was not a study of the people
- who made the dental tape or a study of dentists comparing
- dentists who use dental tape compared to others who did not, but
- you were still able to draw that conclusion and publish that in 23 the peer-reviewed literature?
- 24 Correct.
- 25 Have you considered epidemiology studies, or any study

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Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2243 Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) 1 on the miners and millers of Vermont talc? A I have seen -- I'm only aware of one study on Vermont 2 miners and millers. There's another study that talks about 3 somebody who was a talc man, but I have reviewed a study --4 MS. PAGONIS: Your Honor, we have a motion with 5 5 respect to that. We move to strike. 6 6 7 THE COURT: I didn't hear you. 7 man." 8 MS. PAGONIS: We have a motion with respect to --8 9 may I approach, your Honor? 9 MR. BLOCK: I disagree with striking any testimony 10 10 11 there, your Honor, and I could lay a foundation. 11 12 THE COURT: I have to know with the objection is. 12 (Whereupon, there is a brief pause in the 13 13 testimony.) 14 14 15 THE COURT: Yes. Let's go to the back. 15 16 (Whereupon, the following takes place on the record 16 in the robing room among the Court and all Counsel. 17 17 18 THE COURT: This is the Lamm thing? 18 MS. PAGONIS: So the question was whether she was 19 19 20 aware of any epidemiology study in Vermont, and then she 20 21 answered with the Lamm study, which is not an epidemiology 21 study. So I didn't object with the question, but I am 22 22 23 objecting to strike her response, because it's subject to a 23 pending motion in limine, the Lamm study that your Honor 24 24 25 25 has. Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block) Page 2244 MR. BLOCK: She's prepared to talk about Vermont 1 1 talc workers. She's going to talk about a study that had, I 2 2 think, 300 or 400 workers, who were looked at. She'll talk 3 3 4 about the deficiencies of that study in terms of being a 4 small group, et cetera. 5 5 6 She also will add, and I will elicit the 6 7 7

pneumonia -- excuse me, as for other respiratory system deaths, influenza or pneumonia caused the death of one New York State talc worker, but no Vermont talc miner or miller. Mesothelioma caused the death of one New York State talc man, parenthetical, 15 years after hire, which followed 28 years in mining and construction, and of one Vermont talc

So let's not take this statement of Vermont talc man in isolation. They are talking about a cohort of people that worked in the Vermont talc industry for at least one year. One of those people in the cohort was found to have mesothelioma. So anyone who says, which they said in opening, that no one has gotten mesothelioma who worked in the Vermont talc industry, is mistaken and wrong. And this is something that an expert would reasonably consider and discuss in evaluating people who work with Vermont talc.

And so, I don't see the basis for excluding this or striking any testimony that's been given so far.

MS. PAGONIS: Your Honor, this Lamm --THE COURT: Just off the record for one second. (Whereupon, there is a discussion held off the record among the Court and all Counsel.)

THE COURT: Back on the record.

MR. KURLAND: The un-sourced, unattributed observation that there's this one Vermont talc man with

Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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questioning, that there has been a Vermont talc worker that has been identified as having mesothelioma.

And if you look at this article, your Honor, it's the Lamm article. Directing your attention to the second column of the first page, first full paragraph, you see where it says "The cohort of white male employees" --

THE COURT: Yes.

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MR. BLOCK: -- "of the Vermont talc industry was developed from the records of the Vermont State Health Department's annual radiographic survey of employees." And then it talked, lower in the sentence, about the Vermont talc study cohort as "all white males in the Vermont talc industry on or after January 1st, 1940 with at least one year of talc employment prior to January 1st, 1970." So they describe the cohort of Vermont talc workers that they are talking about.

Then on page -- the next page, which is page 1577 of the article, it says, second paragraph, second column, "As for other respiratory system deaths, influenza or mesothelioma is -- we know nothing about that. And there's no attribution for that. It was laid out yesterday, and it's similar to that one isolated Workers' Comp. claim. These things were all sort of argued together, but this --

THE COURT: So how do we --

MR. KURLAND: -- it's hearsay.

MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, this document is published in the peer-reviewed literature. It's from a Dr. Lamm, Consultants in Epidemiology and Occupational Health from Washington, D.C., and this is about the risks for malignant and nonmalignant respiratory deaths of New York State and Vermont State talc workers. It says it right in the start of the abstract on the first page, your Honor.

And he finds that one person died of mesothelioma who was a Vermont talc worker, in a cohort -- in a cohort that is defined. And I already read it into the record. It's defined in page one, paragraph two, second column.

So they told the jury that no person who worked with Vermont talc, none of the miners and millers had ever gotten mesothelioma. Here we have a defined cohort of Vermont talc workers and we have one of the Vermont talc workers being identified as having mesothelioma.

And if they want to cross examine and say, well, Dr. Moline, it does, you know, define a cohort. And, you know, but it doesn't say what that particular talc worker

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Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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did in the Vermont mines, and they might raise other issues. We don't know what else he did when he wasn't working in the Vermont talc mines, but it goes to the weight of the evidence. And we think this is certainly proper for the witness to discuss, particularly when one of the defenses in this case is that the people mining and milling talc never get mesothelioma.

MR. KURLAND: Your Honor, first of all, this is hearsay. It is an out-of-court statement that plaintiffs are seeking to admit for its truth. They are seeking to admit the truth of the statement that one, quote, Vermont talc man was found to have mesothelioma. They are seeking to offer this for no other purpose except to establish the truth of that statement. And to that purpose, it is inadmissible hearsay. It is irrelevant that it may have been published in the peer-reviewed literature.

Moreover, there is no indication here that this was ever published in the peer-reviewed literature. It has authors. It doesn't say whether it was published. And our understanding of this is that it was presented at a conference as part of a poster presentation. It was not subject to peer review.

But even if it were subjected to peer review, you can't admit a study in New York for the -- for its truth. I mean, it is hearsay. And they are trying to admit an

peer-reviewed literature is that in the epidemiological studies, the studies themselves, there has -- there is not a report of a miner or a Miller developing mesothelioma. In the peer-reviewed literature epidemiological studies. That's not an epidemiological study. So that is the distinction that we are making here. And I have not said to the jury -- we have not said to the jury that there is nothing out there that says that someone may have developed mesothelioma in association with mining.

There is another issue with regard to a random miner in Italy, but that person is not part of the study because the person didn't meet the study criteria, for reasons that will be explained.

Our statement has been very clear, that if you look at the scope of the epi data, that is the epidemiological studies that are in the peer-reviewed literature, there are a large number of patient years, over 60,000 patient years, and within those studies there is not a case of mesothelioma.

MR. BLOCK: Your Honor --

MR. BROCK: This is not peer-reviewed literature.

MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, this is a published study, and I will lay the foundation for it. And it's -- it is an epidemiological --

THE COURT: Where was it published?

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isolated fact from the study. This is an out-of-court statement that they seek to admit for its truth, and that is an improper purpose.

MR. BLOCK: And, your Honor, if that's the standard and their witnesses aren't going to talk about the absence of mesotheliomas in Vermont and Italian talc miners and millers, then I guess it all could be excluded from the case, but I don't think that's the case. I think their witnesses are going to give expert opinions about whether there have been cases of mesothelioma among these talc miners and millers.

My expert is entitled to rely upon materials that she considers reliable and that she would ordinarily rely upon in her profession, environmental and occupational medicine. And the jury will have to, you know, weigh the relevance of the miners and millers experience. And this is part of the data that both experts are -- that all the experts are aware of and discuss in these cases.

(Whereupon, there is a brief pause in the proceedings.)

THE COURT: What about plaintiff's argument that it responds to defendant's statement that no one dies from this.

MR. BROCK: I didn't bring my reading glasses, but, your Honor, the defendant's statement with regard to the

MR. BLOCK: It says "epidemiology" at the top, your Honor. And that's not the standard. The standard is whether it's the type of material that would ordinarily and reasonably be relied upon by an expert who is investigating the issue and forming their expert opinions.

Here, how can an expert overlook the fact that there is this published article that is an epidemiology study.

If you look at the abstract, your Honor, it's talking about, you know, elevated risk. It's comparing mortality patterns. It's talking about a cohort of workers. It's giving the results. It's talking about the mortality ratios. It's -- there's a table that has comparative lung mortality risks of New York and Vermont State talc workers.

So, your Honor, I should be able to lay a foundation for my expert to testify about this document, just as they are going to attempt to lay the foundation for their experts to talk about any epidemiology studies or any scientific studies on Vermont or Italian talc workers.

MR. KURLAND: I'll just --

MR. BLOCK: They did say, in opening, that none of the miners and millers -- we could find it. Is this on the CDC website?

MR. HARTLEY: It is.

MR. BLOCK: This is on the Center for Disease

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Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)
                                                    Page 2251
                                                                Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)
                                                                                                                     Page 2253
      Control's website right now, CDC.gov. So this is done -- I
                                                                       there. There are responses. There are all kinds of things
 2
      mean, it's still on the CDC website now. So -- but, your
                                                                       that are on Pubmed that are not what is known in the
                                                                 2
       Honor, they told the jury that none of the miners and
                                                                 3
                                                                       scientific community as a peer-reviewed article, which is a
 3
 4
      millers get sick. And they even said, when Dr. Moline comes
                                                                 4
                                                                        very specific thing.
                                                                              MR. HARTLEY: The letters to the editor that go on
 5
      in, we are going to show you that, you know, she used to say
                                                                 5
                                                                       Pubmed are peer reviewed. You'll hear about that.
 6
      the miners and miller studies were important, and now she
                                                                 6
 7
       says they are not.
                                                                 7
                                                                              MR. KURLAND: By definition, a letter to an editor
             Dr. Moline has to be able to fully explain her
                                                                        is not peer-reviewed.
 8
                                                                 8
                                                                              THE COURT: Do I have 15 minutes to decide to think
 9
       opinions with regard to the miner and miller studies, and
                                                                 9
                                                                        about it. Can you move on?
       she's needs to be able to rely upon material that I could
10
                                                                10
11
       lay a foundation for her to rely upon.
                                                                11
                                                                              MR. BLOCK: I don't think so, your Honor. I'm
12
             MR. KURLAND: I'll point out, it says
                                                                12
                                                                        sorry, I ---
       "Epidemiology" at the top. It does not contain any
                                                                              MR. KURLAND: Should we take our afternoon break?
13
                                                                13
       particular citations. There is nowhere on this document
                                                                              MR. HARTLEY: We've only been going for 45 minutes.
14
                                                                14
15
      that says where it was published, when it was published or
                                                                15
                                                                              MR. BLOCK: I have very limited ground to cover
16
       whether it was subject to peer review.
                                                                      before we do damages, some testimony about damages and show
                                                                16
            The fact that you could find it on the CDC Pubmed
                                                                       some medical records.
17
                                                                17
18
       database doesn't indicate that it was published in any
                                                                18
                                                                              I mean, so I did not anticipate --
       particular piece of literature. I mean, that's not on the
                                                                              THE COURT: Five minutes.
                                                                19
19
20
       face of this document either. I mean, there's no indication
                                                                              MR. BLOCK: Sure.
                                                                20
       this was published.
                                                                              THE COURT: Give me five minutes.
21
                                                                21
             MR. HARTLEY: Your Honor, I just offer one thing
                                                                22
                                                                              MR. BLOCK: Your Honor, I'm not trying to limit
22
                                                                       your time on anything. I'm surprised that there is an
23
      here. This is -- we've heard evidence like this throughout
                                                                23
       case. This is data that an expert is relying upon. If
                                                                       objection to an expert relying upon a published article.
24
                                                                24
25
       there's going -- if they win the day here on this article,
                                                                25
                                                                              THE COURT: Why would you be surprised? They are
Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)
                                                    Page 2252
                                                                                                                    Page 2254
      none of what they want to talk about about epidemiology
                                                                       objecting about everything and you are objecting about
                                                                 1
 1
       would be able to come in, because it's scientific evidence
                                                                       everything.
 2
                                                                 2
       that they their experts want to rely upon, but it's hearsay
                                                                              MR. BLOCK: I don't recall objecting to much
 3
                                                                 3
 4
       so it can't come in.
                                                                       anything in this trial. But, your Honor, the point is, if
                                                                 4
             This is just -- the -- not to mention the fact that
                                                                       that's going on the standard, then I don't see how their
 5
                                                                 5
 6
       Johnson & Johnson had this document within its files as
                                                                 6
                                                                        experts are going to testify.
 7
       well. And we'll come to that later in the case, if we
                                                                 7
                                                                              THE COURT: You are not giving me five minutes?
       decide to try to admit that, but this document is of the
                                                                              MR. BLOCK: Take ten, 15, a half hour. I would
 8
                                                                 8
 9
       sort that an expert would rely upon. This is squarely
                                                                 9
                                                                        never impose upon the Court.
                                                                              THE COURT: Let me think about it.
10
       within -- they may not like it, but that's not the standard
                                                                10
       for admission. The standard for admission is, is it of the
                                                                              MR. HARTLEY: We will let you definitely you do
11
                                                                11
12
       type that an expert in the field would rely upon. It's --
                                                                12
                                                                        that.
      experts can rely upon hearsay because that's the only way
                                                                13
                                                                              (Continued on the next page.)
13
       they could do their job. And it is published in a
14
                                                                14
15
      peer-reviewed document. And as Counsel point out, I will
                                                                15
      disagree with Counsel that if something is on Pubmed, it's a
16
                                                                16
17
      published peer-reviewed document, because only published
                                                                17
18
      peer-reviewed evidence gets onto the CDC Pubmed website. He
                                                                18
19
       says that's not true. I'm telling you --
                                                                19
20
             THE COURT: I don't know whether that's true.
                                                                20
             MR. HARTLEY: You could look, take judicial notice
21
                                                                21
       of it, your Honor. If you looked at it -- because it's
22
                                                                22
23
       crystal clear that only published peer review articles get
                                                                23
       on the CDC website for Pubmed.
24
                                                                24
             MR. KURLAND: There are letters to the editor on
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                                                                25
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Yes.

determine whether ultimately they will get mesothelioma?

MS. PAGONIS: Objection. Leading.

THE COURT: Overruled. You may answer.

	nna A. Olson and Robert M. Olson v. Inntag North America, Inc. et al	March 5, 2019
	ect-Moline-Block Page 2255	Direct-Moline-Block Page 2257
1 2 3 4	THE COURT: We'll put this to the side for a moment. Could you ask about something else or you cannot? MR. BLOCK: I can I can try to go on to something else, your Honor.	 A There were a number of folks that have had a very short latency period. So And we don't know what happened after they stopped looking at them for this study. So, we don't know what happened to them in follow up.
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	Q Let's talk about the Italian talc miners and millers. All right. Let's skip past the Vermont talc miners and millers right now. You have you reviewed epidemiology studies on the Italian talc miners and millers? A Yes. Q And approximately how many people are in included in the Italian talc workers study? A It was about less than 2,000. Q And were any cases of mesothelioma reported in the studies of the Italian talc miners and millers in the studies themselves? A No. Q And are you aware of the identification of a case of mesothelioma among an Italian talc worker that was identified by	Q So, what conclusions were you able to draw from the Italian talc worker miner and miller studies given the less than 2,000 people in that study group? A Well, it's a small study group for folks who are working with product that has a very small percentage of asbestos. We know from other miner studies of folks with that are mining pure asbestos or virtually pure asbestos, that there is a small number of cases that you would expect to see in people mine or milling a thousand percent asbestos compared to less than one percent asbestos. Q Or a hundred percent asbestos compared to less than one percent? A Correct. I'm sorry if I misspoke. So, it's a small sample size. There is a question about latency. Some question
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	an author called Mirabelli? A Yes. Q And how did Mirabelli bring to the attention of the scientific community that there is a case of mesothelioma in a person who worked at the Italian talc miner mill? A He wrote a letter to the editor. Q And was it indicated in the letter to the editor from	about disease ascertainment. But primarily it's a sample size. And they also looked at mortality of less than a thousand individuals to look at what they actually died of. So the whole sample size was in the 2,000 range, but then the first study that was published only looked at the death certificates of less than 900 individuals who had passed on at the time of the study. Subsequent studies There were two other studies that were
D:		
Dire	ect-Moline-Block Page 2256	Direct-Moline-Block Page 2258
1 2 3 4 5 6	Mirabelli whether the person who developed mesothelioma met the criteria of the people that were being looked at in the Italian talc workers studies? A Mirabelli stated that he believed he did. Q Okay. And what was the criteria in terms of who they looked at in the Italian talc studies, how long they worked	 done later of different groups, so it wasn't really a follow-up study, after dust suppression had been put in place in the mill in the mills and in the mines, so we don't know what the exposures they had because there were some administrative controls meaning the company did dust suppression. And in those cases they excluded anybody who was over 85.
1 2 3 4 5	Mirabelli whether the person who developed mesothelioma met the criteria of the people that were being looked at in the Italian talc workers studies? A Mirabelli stated that he believed he did. Q Okay. And what was the criteria in terms of who they	 done later of different groups, so it wasn't really a follow-up study, after dust suppression had been put in place in the mill in the mills and in the mines, so we don't know what the exposures they had because there were some administrative controls meaning the company did dust suppression. And in those cases they excluded anybody who was over 85. Q What's the significance of studying a group of workers and excluding people that are over age 85? A Well, I've certainly seen mesothelioma in people over 85. It means that if someone is 84, you could only they only
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	Mirabelli whether the person who developed mesothelioma met the criteria of the people that were being looked at in the Italian talc workers studies? A Mirabelli stated that he believed he did. Q Okay. And what was the criteria in terms of who they looked at in the Italian talc studies, how long they worked there, how old they were, gender, issues like that? A They looked for people who had worked there for a month or more. So, if you worked there for 32 days, you could be included. If you worked there for 30 years, you could be included. So, one month was the criteria. Q What about the issue of latency. Did they only look at workers that had worked there for a long time? How many people had been working there for, you know, going back 40 years, do you recall those details?	1 done later of different groups, so it wasn't really a follow-up study, after dust suppression had been put in place in the 3 mill in the mills and in the mines, so we don't know what the 4 exposures they had because there were some administrative 5 controls meaning the company did dust suppression. And in those 6 cases they excluded anybody who was over 85. 7 Q What's the significance of studying a group of workers 8 and excluding people that are over age 85? 9 A Well, I've certainly seen mesothelioma in people over 10 85. It means that if someone is 84, you could only they only 11 counted someone who had a mesothelioma up to 84 and 364 days. 12 If they were 85 and one day, they wouldn't look at them. And 13 you can't tell me there is any biological difference between 14 84 years, 364 days and 85 years and one day in terms of a 15 person. But they wouldn't be included. So they cut them off at
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Mirabelli whether the person who developed mesothelioma met the criteria of the people that were being looked at in the Italian talc workers studies? A Mirabelli stated that he believed he did. Q Okay. And what was the criteria in terms of who they looked at in the Italian talc studies, how long they worked there, how old they were, gender, issues like that? A They looked for people who had worked there for a month or more. So, if you worked there for 32 days, you could be included. If you worked there for 30 years, you could be included. So, one month was the criteria. Q What about the issue of latency. Did they only look at workers that had worked there for a long time? How many people had been working there for, you know, going back 40 years, do	 done later of different groups, so it wasn't really a follow-up study, after dust suppression had been put in place in the mill in the mills and in the mines, so we don't know what the exposures they had because there were some administrative controls meaning the company did dust suppression. And in those cases they excluded anybody who was over 85. Q What's the significance of studying a group of workers and excluding people that are over age 85? A Well, I've certainly seen mesothelioma in people over 85. It means that if someone is 84, you could only they only counted someone who had a mesothelioma up to 84 and 364 days. If they were 85 and one day, they wouldn't look at them. And you can't tell me there is any biological difference between 84 years, 364 days and 85 years and one day in terms of a

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Α

Q

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There were.

cancers identified in the Italian talc miner, miller studies?

Okay. How many, do you recall?

I believe there were two.

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 ${f Q}$ Now, you told us that Donna Olson has mesothelioma in

- the pleura. Where is the second most commonplace for
- mesothelioma to occur?

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- 4 A In the peritoneum.
- 5 Q And do the studies give any reason why they're
- 6 identifying these two peritoneal cancers as peritoneal cancer
- versus peritoneal mesothelioma?
- 8 A No. They didn't give any further information that
- 9 would allow you to differentiate between what would be the more
- 10 common cause particularly in men of peritoneal cancers might be
- 11 mesothelioma. They didn't give any information. They just said
- 12 there were two peritoneal cancers, but they are not
- 13 mesothelioma, but there is no information for us to know whether
- 14 that's correct or not.
- 15 Q So, based upon your knowledge and experience, is a
- 16 peritoneal based cancer in men often mesothelioma?
- 17 A Without another primary, yes. In women, sometimes you
- 18 have a disease called primary peritoneal cancer, but there are
- 19 cell markers that can differentiate. They didn't provide any of
- 20 that information. They said they are peritoneal cancers and
- 21 that was all the information they had.
- Q Now, over the last one to two years have you had access
- 23 or one or two or three years have you had access to the first
- 24 time to Johnson & Johnson's documents discussing certain of the
- 25 Italian talc miner and miller studies?

1 company has a vested interest in the findings and the research

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- 2 that's being done, there has to be disclosure. There has to be
- 3 transparency. And there was none. Another factor that I became
- 4 aware of was that Johnson & Johnson had people who are actively
- 5 writing the results and conclusions of the paper. So, it's
- 6 unclear who actually wrote the paper, if it was Dr. Rubino and
- 7 coauthors or some other individuals who actually took part in
- 8 the paper, and that's against medical journal standards and
- the paper, and that's against medical journal standards and
- 9 ethics. There is actually rules about ghost writing now that it
- has to be disclosed. Certainly the people funding the study
- should not be writing the paper without them being listed asauthors and there being transparency and there was none.
- Q Okay. Just to be clear, did you know anything about
- 14 those details before the last three years when you first had the
- 15 opportunity to review the Johnson & Johnson documents produced
- 16 in litigation?
- 17 A I did not. I took the studies as being at face value 18 that they were independent work. And what I've learned over the
- 19 past two, three years is that the work was not independent.
- 20 Q And in terms of some of the other Italian talc miner,
- 21 miller studies, were any of those authored by people that were
- 22 affiliated with either Johnson & Johnson or the company that
- 23 supplied the talc in a way that was not identified in a
- 24 published article?
- A There is a second paper. The author's name is

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- 1 A Yes.
- Q And when you had testified prior to the last three
- 3 years about the Italian talc miners and miller studies, did you
- 4 ever before have any access to the Johnson & Johnson documents
- 5 discussing these studies?
- 6 A I did not.
- 7 Q And is there anything in terms of your review of
- 8 Johnson & Johnson's historical records regarding the Italian
- 9 talc miners and miller studies that have limited your reliance
- 10 on these studies?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q And what is that?
- 13 A I've seen documents that discuss that Johnson & Johnson
- 14 had to approve the protocol and they controlled the study. They
- 15 paid the lead author. It's unclear if other people received
- 16 money. And that in and of itself is, people often get paid to
- 17 do studies, but it was never disclosed that J & J had paid, I
- believe it was, \$30,000 in 1976 for the lead author.
- 19 Q Is that a person named Rubino?
- 20 A Rubino, correct.
- 21 Q Just because Johnson & Johnson paid money for the
- 22 study, is that an issue in and of itself or was it disclosed in
- 23 the published paper?
- A It was not disclosed in the paper. Companies pay for
- work to be done, but there has to be a wall between when the

- 1 Coggiola, C-O-G-G-I-O-L-A. He was actually the medical director
- 2 for the mine company that was supplying the talc.
- 3 Q Is that Imerys?
- 4 A I believe so. That was not disclosed in the paper.
- 5 That came out in the 90s, I think.
- 6 Q And I think the jury will hear about that paper. So
- 7 the paper that was -- where Coggiola was the lead author, was he
- 8 disclosed in that paper, in that paper as being employed by
- **9** Imerys, the mine company?
- 10 A It was not disclosed.
- 11 O You mentioned I think -- So just in terms of the number
- 12 of people involved in the Italian talc miner, miller studies,
- 13 less than 2,000, just in terms of the rarity of the disease
- 14 mesothelioma, is that a large group of workers where you
- 15 necessarily expect to detect a case of mesothelioma?
- A No. There are a number of factors that would go into
- 17 assessing whether you have what's called adequate statistical
- 18 power. Part of that is how frequently do you expect to see the
- 19 disease in the population. The second factor is what are they
- 20 being exposed to and what's the percentage. Is it a high
- 21 exposure. Is it a lower exposure. That will affect the number
- 22 of folks that you need to include in your study to be able to
- 23 have sufficient statistical power.

We're dealing with a disease that has a rate of let's say 13 per million in the United States. I'm not exactly sure

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1 what the Italian rates are. But it's still a rare disease. So,

- 2 here we have a population that's significantly less than a
- 3 million. And they were only looking at actually less than a
- 4 thousand folks who had passed away in the first study. So,
- 5 given the factors that it was less than one percent asbestos and
- 6 there were less than a thousand folks they were looking at, they
- 7 did not have adequate statistical power to see any
- 8 mesotheliomas, if they existed.
- 9 Q Okay. I would like to talk to you about the Vermont 10 talc workers and --
- THE COURT: Lay a foundation.
- MR. BLOCK: On this issue?
- THE COURT: Yes.
- MR. BLOCK: Yes, your Honor.
- Q Dr. Moline, I want to ask you about some of the
- 16 Vermont -- I want to ask you about studies that have been done
- 17 looking at Vermont talc workers, and one of the studies I want
- 18 to ask you about is the study by Lamm. And is the Lamm article
- 19 a published study that you have considered in terms of looking
- 20 at all the information that's available, where there is
- 21 published literature looking at Vermont miners and millers and
- 22 health outcomes?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q And is that article by Lamm, is that an epidemiology
- 25 study that looks at a particular cohort of Vermont talc workers?

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- 1 mesothelioma, in what was called a Vermont talc man. Just to
- 2 give a little more detail about that, do they define the group
- 3 of Vermont talc workers that were being looked at in that study
- 4 in terms of when they worked with Vermont talc and for how long
- 5 they worked? Did they describe that in the first page of the
- 6 study?
- 7 A They did in terms of the cohort they were following,
- 8 yes.
- **9** Q And can you tell us what cohort or what group they were
- 10 looking at in that study?
- 11 A It was employees of the Vermont talc industry that they
- 12 were following from 1940 to 1970 who had at least one year of
- 13 employment prior to 1970. So, I'm sorry. They were following
- 14 them through 1975.
- Q Okay. Does it say how many?
- 16 A It looks like they had mortality on 392.
- Q Does it say whether those workers -- I guess did the
- 18 study then continue to follow the workers to see if there are
- 19 any other cases of mesothelioma in those Vermont talc workers?
- 20 A No.
- 21 Q Have you ever seen a follow-up study on that Lamm
- 22 publication that followed those workers into the future to see
- 23 if any other workers got mesothelioma?
- 24 A No.
- 25 Q When was that study published? That copy may not have

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- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q And do they define the cohort they are looking at?
- A It was a cohort of Vermont talc, white, male, Vermont
- ${\bf 4} \quad talc \ workers \ that \ they \ identified \ from \ the \ Vermont \ State \ Health$
- Department, and they were looking at X-rays to look forrespiratory disease and lung cancer in the workers.
- 7 Q All right. And is part of what you have done here is
- 8 to try to look at all the published literature on studies of
- 9 Vermont talk miners and millers in forming an expert opinion as
- 10 to what studies have been done and what information has been
- 11 found in those studies?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q Is the Lamm publication one of the published materials
- 14 in which you have relied upon, and is it the type of material
- 15 that is ordinarily relied upon by experts in the field of
- 16 occupational and environmental medicine in forming opinions
- 17 about the epidemiology as it relates to Vermont talc miners and
- 18 millers?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Was there a case of mesothelioma identified in those
- 21 workers that are identified as being Vermont talc miners and
- 22 millers?
- A He described one death from mesothelioma in a, what he
- 24 called a Vermont talc man.
- 25 Q All right. Now in terms of this one case of

- 1 a date on it.
- 2 A It does not have a date on it.
- 3 Q Was it in the 70s?
- **4** A It would have been probably in the late 70s, I think.
- 5 Q I'll put approximately late 70s, understanding that it
- 6 looks like the copy you have does not have a date on it. So
- 7 were there any other studies of Vermont talc workers that you
- were there any other studies of vermont tale workers that
- 8 looked at and considered?
- **9** A There is one other that I'm aware of which is a study
- .0 by Selevan, S-E-L-E-V-A-N. And I think the cohort size was 492.
- 11 And they only followed them for ten years. And did not find any
- 12 disease or any mesothelioma after ten years, which is what we
- 13 would expect.
- 14 Q Okay. So, give us a sense of the like time period when
- they did the Selevan study, and then you said that they wereonly followed for ten years, can you give us some more detail
- 17 about that and tell us the significance in terms of whether, you
- 18 know, if you're looking to see if -- if you're looking at the
- **19** disease mesothelioma?
- A So, it's too short a latency period to be able to comment meaningfully. They didn't find any mesotheliomas in
- 22 individuals that had been working for ten years. So, there
- 23 wasn't sufficient latency. It's also a very small sample size.
- 24 I think some of the primary goals of this study were to look at
- 25 pulmonary function and other factors. They did look at

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- mortality experience in these individuals.
- Q Okay. I have a notation from -- Let me ask you this.
- If the NIOSH website indicates that the Lamm study was from
- 1990s, does that sound incorrect or you just don't know?
- A To be honest, I know it was before I got into the
- field. I don't remember when it was.
- 7 Q All right.
- 8 A 1990 is totally possible, but the follow up was only
- 9 through '75.
- Okay. And we'll get that squared away in the record 10
- later in the case. So, in terms of the Vermont talc workers and 11
- 12 the Selevan study, given that they looked at only 492 workers
- and only followed them for ten years, what conclusions can you
- 14 draw from there?
- 15 A You don't have enough information, because there hasn't
- been a follow-up study to look to see what happened to any of 16
- 17 these individuals. The latency wasn't long enough to see any
- mesotheliomas, if they did arise.
- Q Okay. Now, have you looked at whether the Italian talc 19
- 20 miners and millers or the Vermont miners and millers, whether
- they were given any protective measures to suppress the dust or
- to keep exposures down or to protect those workers? 22
- 23 Yes. I've seen both in the Italian talc miner and
- millers papers. They discuss that in the late 1940s dust
- suppression efforts were instituted within the mines and mills.

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- people would avoid breathing the dust? A Yes. If you weren't directly involved in that
- activity, you weren't in the area. So, not only for the
- individuals working with it, trying to isolate it with exhaust
- and things like that, but you also make sure that other people
- don't have bystander exposure.
- Q Have you reviewed historical documents showing that
- Vermont talc workers at times were given masks and respirators
- to protect them from breathing in the dust from the talc?
 - Α Yes.

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- 11 O Dr. Moline, if a miner, if someone is mining talc rock and they are breaking off a large piece of talc that contains asbestos, is a rock, is a large rock something that's going to
- be able to get in the air, remain suspended and get down into a person's lung? 15

MS. PAGONIS: Objection. Foundation.

THE COURT: I didn't hear the last words of what you said. Just a minute. You may inquire about a foundation.

- 20 Q Are you aware of whether a large rock can be breathed 21 in by a human?
- A I am aware that it is impossible for us to breathe in a 22 23 large rock, yes.
- Q If a talc miner is breaking off a large piece of talc 24 rock, is that something that is going to pose a respiratory

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- 1 And I've seen documentation regarding very specific dust
- suppression and other safety measures and controls in Vermont
- 3 talc mines.
- Q And have you reviewed a historical document from the
- 1970s that discusses very significant safety precautions being
- taken to protect the Vermont talc workers from breathing in the
- 7 dust from the talc they were mining and milling?
- Yes. 8
- 9 MS. PAGONIS: Objection. Leading.
- THE COURT: Overruled. You may answer. 10
- Yes, I have. 11
- 12 All right. And did that include dust suppression?
- A It included dust suppression. They actually separated 13
- it from the miners, the millers and then folks packaging, I 14
- believe. So, there were very specific instructions to make sure
- that the exposures were minimized in these workers. 16
- Q Is one of the industrial hygiene controls that could be 17
- used to protect workers something called isolation? 18
- 19
- 20 Okay. And was isolation used in the Vermont -- for the
- benefit of the Vermont talc workers based upon your review of 21
- 22 historical documents?
- 23 Α Yes.
- 0 And does that mean that when there were dusty 24
- operations going on, those would be isolated in an area so

- hazard, that large talc rock?
 - MS. PAGONIS: Objection. Foundation. Leading.
- THE COURT: Overruled. 3
- 4 A The rock is -- is a rock. They're not going to breathe
- in a rock. 5
- Q How would you contrast someone who is breaking off a
- large talc rock and mine the material versus a consumer who is
- using a powder that is ground up into fine respirable particles?
- 9 A So, a miner is going to be mining rocks. There may be
- some dust associated with breaking up the rocks, but it could
- be -- it is not going to be the same as someone using a finished
- product that is small and fine and is made to be put into the
- air and put onto the body.
- Q And if in the mills if -- if dust suppression is being used and if workers are being isolated into various areas to
- avoid exposure and masks or respiratory are being worn, how does
- 17 that compare to one who is in their bathroom and using baby
- powder and putting it on their chest and under their arms and
- getting dust in the air without respiratory protection?
- 20 A None of those safety or precautions are being taken in
- the home. So, they're not wearing the respiratory and they are
- not using the appropriate ventilation to make sure that that concentration in the air is low. So, it's going to be a very
- different exposure and it would be a higher exposure.
 - Q Dr. Moline, we heard that just briefly, we'll see again

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1 Donna Olson had a procedure called a talc pleurodesis. Is that

procedure recommended for people that do not already have a malignancy?

4 MS. PAGONIS: Objection. Leading.

THE COURT: You may answer.

A It is not recommended for people who do not have a terminal disease or malignancy. 7

8 Q All right. And have you looked at whether there are studies with people who have had Italian talc pleurodesis who don't already have mesothelioma, if those people have been

looked at sufficiently to see if they develop mesothelioma in 11

12 the future?

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5

13 A I'm aware of one study that looked at individuals that 14 used to be used for folks who develop something called a

15 spontaneous pneumothorax, meaning your lung collapses and then they would put in a talc. There is about a hundred folks or so

17 in that study that were followed. So, the -- the number of

people that they followed, and they didn't follow them for

decades going forward. So, it's a very small sample size. And

20 I don't recall the exact latency, but it was not a long latency,

if I recall correctly, they did not find any disease among those

individuals, but we won't expect it given the short latency and 22

23 the small numbers of folks.

Q The jury might hear some testimony about a disease 24 called talcosis. Are you familiar with that disease?

THE COURT: Is this a good time to take a break for 1 the jury? 2

MR. BLOCK: Yes, your Honor. Thank you.

THE COURT: Ten minutes. Thank you. COURT OFFICER: All rise. Jury exiting.

(Whereupon the jury panel departed the courtroom.)

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MR. BLOCK: The plaintiffs move into evidence Plaintiffs' Exhibit 326, 33, 43, which were medical records, and Plaintiffs' Exhibits 326-A and 333-A, which are radiology images, a printout of radiology images.

(Whereupon Plaintiffs' Exhibit Nos. 326, 33, 43, 326-A and 333-A were marked received in evidence as of this date.)

MR. BLOCK: My understanding is there is no objection to those.

MS. PAGONIS: No objection.

MR. BLOCK: Thank you.

(Whereupon Plaintiffs' Exhibit Nos. 330 through 343 were marked received in evidence as of this date.) (Whereupon a recess was taken.)

COURT OFFICER: All rise. Jury entering. (Whereupon the jury panel entered the courtroom.) THE COURT: Thank you. Please be seated. MR. BLOCK: May I proceed, your Honor?

THE COURT: Yes, please.

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And is there any evidence that Donna Olson has the 2

- disease called talcosis? 3
- No. 4 Α
- What is talcosis? 5 0
- 6 A Talcosis is a scarring of the lungs due to inhalation 7 of talc.
- And does the fact that Donna Olson does not have 8 9 talcosis affect your opinion that her mesothelioma was caused by
- asbestos from Johnson & Johnson talcum powder products? 10
- 11 A No. Talcosis, first of all, talcosis isn't malignant.
- 12 There is a case reported of somebody who worked with -- in a
- 13 talc manufacturing company who developed acute talcosis. So,
- 14 it's possible for folks who are working with it to develop it.
- There is only one case that I'm aware of in the medical
- literature, so it's very rare from that exposure. But you don't
- 17 need talcosis to develop mesothelioma and -- and also talcosis
- is within the lungs, and Ms. Olson had cancer outside the lungs 18
- in the pleural space. 19
- Q Okay. 20

MR. BLOCK: Can we switch to the PowerPoint, 21 22

23 Q I would like to ask some questions about Ms. Olson's

medical history and her treatments that she's had for her disease and her future prognosis.

Q Dr. Moline, we have just admitted Exhibits 326 through 343 as well as Exhibit 333-A and 326-A. And are those some of

the medical records that you have reviewed for Mrs. Olson that

we're going to discuss with the jury today?

A Yes. 5

6 Q How old was Donna Olson when she developed 7 mesothelioma?

A I believe she was about 62. 8

9 Q All right. And if you need to, just for detail, if you need to refer to your report at all with regard to any of the 10

details, please feel free to do that. When Donna Olson was

diagnosed with mesothelioma, how was her health prior to that? 12 She had been in good health. She was very active. 13

Q And does smoking cause mesothelioma? 14

15 Α It does not.

Regardless, was Donna Olson a cigarette smoker or 16 17 someone who had been identified as someone who ever smoked

cigarettes? 18

19 She never smoked cigarettes.

20 Q All right. What happened to Donna Olson in March of 2016 in terms of a change to her health? 21

A She developed a cough and shortness of breath. She

thought she had an upper respiratory infection and went to her

doctor on March 8th, and her doctor ordered a chest X-ray that actually showed that she had fluid in her lung.

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Brenntag North America, Inc. et al Direct-Moline-Block Page 2275 Direct-Moline-Block Page 2277 Q All right. So, here's a record, Exhibit 326, and it 1 infection, maybe in fact she had pneumonia and the pneumonia was causing some fluid. She did not get better after -- with refers to Mrs. Olson in early March of 2016 not feeling well, having upper respiratory symptoms. And then a chest X-ray was respect to the plural effusion after the treatment for pneumonia identified in a pleural effusion. Now looking at Exhibit 326-A and her -- she initially had a fever and cough. That seemed to from March 8th, 2016, Donna Olson (pointing), 62 years old, have gotten better. And then in mid April she had actually some fluid taken out of her lung and a procedure called a female, what is the jury looking at in terms of this chest X-ray thoracentesis. that is significant in terms of the change that was happening 7 8 with her health? 8 Q All right. So, the jury knows, we have blowups of So, we're looking at what's called a chest X-ray. portions of medical records that are in evidence as Exhibit 327. That's called a PA view. And what that is showing is on the So, this procedure called a thoracentesis she had in mid April 10 right side -- And remember yesterday we talked about how that's of 2016, what kind of procedure was that, and what did they, I 12 the right and that's the left (gesturing). So, on the right guess, remove from her body? side of her chest there is -- Well, actually if you look at the A So, it's a procedure that -- where you use a needle. 13 left side first, you see how at the base there it comes to a 14 You put it in the back, into the chest cavity and you withdraw 15 nice, sharp point. Move your fingers. There you go. That's the fluid. So --15 Q And it indicates here that 2.1 liters of fluid were 16 actually called the costophrenic angle, that where the ribs and 16 removed. So that's 2.1 liter of fluid were removed from 17 the diaphragm join. Normally you have that on both sides. If 17 you look on the right side, she doesn't have that sharp angle Ms. Olson's pleural space on her right side? and you actually see that it's white about half way up, which is Α Correct. 19 19 20 -- it looks like a pleural effusion. That there is fluid 20 Q And was anything done to try to keep the pleural 21 occupying a space where her lung should be. 21 effusions from continuing to happen over and over again? Q And is this a classic initial sign of mesothelioma to A So, she had a second -- she had a second thoracentesis 22 23 come in with respiratory pain and a pleural effusion is after the first one in April, and then the fluid kept discovered? 24 reaccumulating. In June she had the procedure where they 25 Yes. It's classic. People often have a cough, removed the fluid, took a look and some biopsies. They did a Direct-Moline-Block Page 2276 Page 2278 shortness of breath. surgical procedure called a thoracoscopy where they made small Q And why does mesothelioma cause fluid to build up in incisions. Put a camera in. Removed the fluid that was there. that manner what is called pleural effusion? 3 Took biopsies. And then put the talc in to prevent the fluid A Well, the tumor is occurring in that space. It can be from reaccumulating. Basically it makes the two pleural that some of the normal drainage for the fluid is blocked by the surfaces that we talked about yesterday, the parietal and the 6 visceral, makes them stick together in the hopes that the fluid

- tumor. It could be the tumor is irritating the pleura and the
- 7 body's reaction is to swell up and produce fluid in response.
- It's -- it's such a classic finding of mesothelioma. Q And do pleura effusions like that with people with
- 9 mesothelioma produce pain and discomfort? 10
- 11 A Often times they do. Often sometimes people will just 12 have a cough and shortness of breath. Sometimes they will have pain, and they can actually have pain in their shoulder, even 13 14 though the fluid may be at the base of their lung, because it's 15 called referred pain. But those are all classic findings.
- Q So what happened then? So, Donna Olson was having this 16 discomfort. She had the chest X-ray. It's all white on the 17
- right side. So they identify this pleural effusion. What 18
- 19 happened next?
- 20 A So then she went and had additional testing. And she
- had a CAT scan that showed she had a pleural effusion, but they
- 22 didn't see much else. And then she was treated for a possible pneumonia. In some cases pneumonia can cause fluid to develop.
- That wasn't the case here, but that was the initial thought,
- that maybe because she had symptoms of an upper respiratory

- 7
- won't reaccumulate. And they did that at that point.

8 (Continue on the next page.) 9

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Q It indicates that they actually put four grams of talc in the pleural surface of Ms. Olson. And is this common that people with mesothelioma have these pleural effusions that keep happening, such that one of the only things that could be done is to do this talc pleurodesis procedure to keep the fluid from reaccumulating and then having to be drained over and over?

A They either do the talc pleurodesis or they could do a pleurodesis with different chemicals. Sometimes they put a catheter that stays in in the pleural space and then people will drain it once a day, if they don't put the talc in.

All right. And this next slide Exhibit 329. 11 12 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 13 screen.)

Q It indicates that just after that pleuroscopy, was the 14 15 preliminary diagnosis -- they did not have a diagnosis yet? A They did not. So the initial frozen, what -- it's 16 17 called frozen section because it's done immediately, did not

show that there was any abnormality. 18

The pathology was then sent over, what is called final 19 20 pathology, and I think sent to the Mayo Clinic for review. And 21 the pathologist at the Mayo Clinic did special testing on it, special stains that are the type of stains that differentiate to see what kind of cancer it is to be able it say it's a

mesothelioma. And that's where they found that it was a

mesothelioma.

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right extra pleuropneumonectomy, and she had resection of her diaphragm, with reconstruction. And she also had a resection and reconstruction of her pericardium.

4 Basically, what they are doing is, they are cutting out part of her rib to gain access to the chest, and then they are removing the right lung, with the pleura surrounding the lung. They are trying to get as much visible tumor as possible, so they are removing all the pleura, both on the chest wall and on the lung itself. And then they are also removing either part or all of the diaphragm, because the diaphragm is covered with the pleura as well, so there's often areas of tumor on the pleura. 11

And then the surgeon will put in mesh, or another material, to have that same barrier between the chest cavity and abdominal cavity that the diaphragm muscles serve. So that's what the surgeon did there.

16 And also as we talked about yesterday, the heart sac, the pericardium has the same type of tissue, and there can often be tumor on the outside of the pericardium and sometimes can grow into the pericardium. So often the surgeons will also remove part of the pericardium and also put a patch there to make sure that it's -- the integrity is more intact.

Q Have you reviewed records, and we have Exhibit 331 in 22 23 evidence, and other records?

> (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the screen.)

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Moline - Plaintiff - Direct (Mr. Block)

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- Q And it says that "Patient became very anxious when I asked her questions about past medical history. Her" -- maybe husband -- "has also become very anxious and said were happy in the knowledge that the biopsies done yesterday were normal, and
- in this process where someone is getting a biopsy and they are
- trying to determine what the disease is." Was this something
- 7 that can cause distress in patients and anxiety?

A Yes. And often the waiting period, sometimes it's 8 challenging to diagnose mesothelioma, and so the pathology will often take several days, and some cases weeks to come back. And 10 11 it's tremendously anxiety producing for folks not to know what 12 is wrong with them.

13 They may know they have some kind of cancer, but they 14 don't know what kind, or they might be told that there's nothing there, but let's get the final review, and then they do find out that they have a mesothelioma. 16

17 Q And ultimately, was there a definitive diagnosis of malignant mesothelioma for Ms. Olson, and did she go forth with 19 a major surgery to try to prolong her life?

20 A She did.

(Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 21 22

23 Q What was that surgery that she had, and when did it take place. And we have Exhibit 330 in evidence. 24

25 A So on August 18, 2016, she had a procedure called a Q Was this an 11-day hospitalization for this surgery?

Α

3 And looking at some of the notes, I would like to ask

you about from August 18 to August 29, 2016. There is a note here. "The day after the surgery that plaintiff has been

nauseous and vomited. Plaintiff medicated with zofran with

7 little to no relief."

8 What is it about major surgery that can cause nausea 9 and vomiting in that manner?

There are a variety of factors. I mean, they were 10 mucking around with her in the area around her abdominal cavity, and also some of the medications, the postanesthesia -- it's a very extensive surgery. It's usually several hours. And people can have adverse reactions to the anesthesia, as well as some of the pain medication that they are given. So somebody having nausea is very common. She was given a medication. Zofran is a medication for nausea. It didn't seem to be helping her too 17 18 much right after surgery?

Q And it indicates here, a few days later, "Possible psych for depression related to cancer diagnosis."

Have you seen throughout the medical records references -- some references of depression and a number of references to 22 anxiety, that Ms. Olson has related to her diagnosis of mesothelioma?

Yes. 25 A

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- Q And is there also an indication in the medical records that prior to her mesothelioma that Ms. Olson did not have a prior history of depression and anxiety?
- A I did not see any notice of that in her prior records.
 I do know that she had at least one visit to the emergency room
 where she had an anxiety attack.
- Q After she developed the mesothelioma?
- 8 A After the mesothelioma.
- 9 Q Okay. And looking more at this hospital stay.

 10 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the

 11 screen.)
- Q It says -- states "She she is very weak." Talked about use of a walker, taking stool softeners.
- And what about the surgery or the pain medication has impacts on the bowels that would require stool softeners?

 A So narcotics are given postoperative. This is major surgery and she would have had narcotics. And one of the side
- effects of narcotics is that they actually will slow the gutdown.
- THE COURT: Slow the?
 - THE WITNESS: The gut, the intestines.
- A And as a result, typically people are given stool
- 23 softeners, because opiate related constipation can be intensely
- 24 painful, it can also lead to vomiting and other things that you
- don't want in somebody who's just had chest surgery. You don't

1 coming back so that there is swelling in their extremities,

- 2 particularly their lower legs, because gravity doesn't help in
- 3 that fashion.
- 4 Q Looking more at this hospitalization, "Patient sitting
- 5 in a recliner chair all day today. Cannot be comfortable in6 bed."
- 7 Is that along the same lines that you were just 8 explaining to us?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q All right.
- (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on thescreen.)
- Q Let's go onto -- I want to ask you about this: So
 after the surgery and before the surgery they diagnosed
 mesothelioma. Is there a description here that mesothelioma, I
 guess that's significant in any way in terms of the encasing of
 the lung, the involvement of the pleura, parietal and visceral,
 and the infiltrating or the invasion into the diaphragm muscle.

How is that significant in looking at Ms. Olson and what she was experiencing, and her prognosis?

- A So it shows that the tumor was pretty extensive. As mesothelioma grows, it becomes like a rind, or like a peel.
- 23 Think of an orange and it's encasing, the inside pulp of an
- 24 orange. In this case the lung is like the pulp, and the orange
- 25 peel or the skin is what the tumor is like.

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- want that in anyone. But -- so there's -- people are put on
 what is called a bowel regimen to make sure that they don't
 develop this side effect of the medication.
- Q And the next day, on August 27th, 2016 it says, "Some complaints of increasing shortness of breath when she lies flat, as well as swelling in her legs."
- And so, talk to us about the shortness of breath while
 lying flat, and the swelling of the legs, in light of
 Ms. Olson's surgery and her condition.
- A So she's having increasing shortness of breath, which is she's -- her body is adapting to the fact that it used to have two sides -- two lungs, in essence, and now she only has one lung. So her body is getting used to that.
- And she's not -- the sensation that she is not able to lie flat. Many people don't feel comfortable lying flat. They feel like they can't take a deep enough breath. Also, it hurts to take a deep breath because you've had surgery on one side of your chest, then you are not able to take that deep breath, so that can lead to more of increasing shortness of breath when you are lying flat.
- The swelling in her legs can be due to fluid shifts, as a result of the surgery. It can be due to the problems with the lymphatics. It's something that is seen in individuals with mesothelioma, which they can develop a condition called lymphedema, where there can be problems with the lymph flow

So they are removing that. The concern was that actually they found that the tumor invaded into the muscle, so then your concern is that it spread into the chest wall muscles as well, as well as the diaphragm. And then it means it might be able to get into the abdomen where it can spread into the abdomen.

Another concern is -- was that the margin of the tumor was not clean. So they knew that even when they removed part of -- they weren't able to remove all of the tumor because it was too close to a major blood vessel and it was too dangerous to do that. So there was some residual tumor left, even after this very extensive surgery, which puts her at greater risk of reoccurrence.

Q So what happened after Ms. Olson's surgery after she
was discharged from the hospital after that 11-day stay? What
sort of happened in the course of her medical treatment and care
and her disease process?

A So typically when people have this very aggressive surgery they -- it doesn't only -- the treatment doesn't stop with the surgery, but people are given what is called adjuvant chemotherapy, meaning chemotherapy after surgery, typically for four cycles of combination chemotherapy. And then they are also given radiation treatments to make sure that if there is any residual tumor left that the radiation will affect the cells, the cancer cells that are remaining.

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- Ms. Olson received both of those treatments over the 2 course of the fall of 2016. And then she basically -- after the
- radiation, there wasn't much more treatment that is typically
- done. And she was just followed by her oncologist and her other doctors.
- She did have difficulty with -- the swelling that 6 started when she was in the hospital persisted, and has, to my understanding, continued to persist. From the reading of the medical records, that's impaired her ability to ambulate.
- Q To ambulate, to move? 10
- 11 A To walk, to -- she can't go up to her bedroom upstairs 12 because she can't climb the stairs.
- 13 Q Let me stop you there. I want to ask you about some of the records. 14
- 15 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the screen.) 16
- So after the surgery that she had and her 17
- hospitalization, there is a record, Exhibit 333, that says there
- was a Port-A-Cath placement and procedure for that. 19
- What is a Port-A-Cath and what was it used for with 20 Ms. Olson? 21
- A So a Port-A-Cath is an implantable device that is put 22
- so that the chemotherapy can be administered, and other
- intravenous fluids, but it provides an easier access rather than
- trying to find a vein and putting in an intravenous line, which

- the development of lower extremity edema, which has been
- limiting her ambulation."
- Is that what you are explaining to the jury? 3
- 4
- 5 Q And in terms of this note here, "No known asbestos
- exposure."

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- Again, does that surprise you, in terms of the 7
- indication of no known asbestos exposure, based upon the
- questions you would expect Ms. Olson's treating doctors to ask
- about, and what you would expect people to know in terms of asbestos in talcum powder? 11
- 12 It's not surprising at all.
 - (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the screen.)
- 15 Q Here it indicates the radiation treatments that you told the jury about, that she had 30 radiation treatments which ended March 28th, 2017.
 - It says, "Prior to cancer diagnosis, patient was independent with self care and ambulation." It indicates here, on June 15th, 2017, "That patient requires wheelchair for community ambulation and requires assistance for all self care, such as bathing, dressing, and with all household and cooking tasks from her husband. And it says she sleeps in a recliner."
- 24 Based upon your review of the medical records, was
- 25 Donna Olson ever able to sleep in her bed after she had the

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- extra pleuropneumonectomy surgery?
- A No.
- 3 Q And these issues with the lymphedema and the swelling,
- and needing a wheelchair or a walker, not being able to climb
- stairs to the bedroom, um, based upon your review of the medical
- records, has that been continuing from the time that she had
- 7 that surgery back in 2016, up to this day?
- Yes. 8 Α
- 9 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 10 screen.)
- 11 O And it says here, July 11, 2017, "Increased swelling and pitting in bilateral feet." And wearing these foot garments 12
- to try to help with that. What does it mean, pitting? 13 A "Pitting" is when you -- someone has swelling in their 14 feet, you actually can press your finger down and you'll see the pit or the -- it's a way of assessing how much fluid is in
- 17 someone's lower legs, typically in the lower legs. It can be anywhere in the body, but it just shows there's a significant 18
- 19 amount of swelling.
- 20 Q Here, on July 11, 2017, it says, "Painful (B)LE." What does that mean? 21
- 22 A Bilateral lower extremity. Means pain in both her 23 lower legs.
- Q Is that from the lymphedema that followed the surgery 24 and chemotherapy?

1 often can be difficult in individuals, especially if someone is having swelling in their arms. So it's -- it was a way for them

- to get the chemotherapy.
- Q And then we have another chest x-ray from November 15,
- 2016 ---5
- 6 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 7 screen.)
- O -- after the extra pleuropneumonectomy. And I think --8 9 do we see here a rib that had been cut out?
- A Yes. So that was -- as part of the surgery they had to 10 cut out her rib to gain access to the chest. And you could see evidence of a missing rib on that film. 12
- What you also see is no lung is present on the right 13 side anymore, and it's all filled with fluid, except for the --14 there is a tiny bit of air at the very top, but eventually that will fill with fluid. That is the body's normal response after 16 17 a lung is removed.
- 18 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 19
- 20 Q You mentioned chemotherapy. And here, on January 27th, 2017. It indicates that she completed four cycles of cisplatin
- 22 and alimta. Is that the chemotherapy she had?
- 23 Α Correct.
- Q Last cycle, December 8th, 2018. It says, "She 24 25 tolerated this overall poorly. She indicates, including with

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- And the swelling, yes.
- 2 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the screen.) 3
- 4 Q Do we see this condition continuing August 8th, 2017,
- "Patient requiring wheelchair, requiring assistance for all self
- care, such as bathing, dressing, all household tasks."
- Is that indicated in the medical records? 7
- Yes. 8 Α

1

- 9 Q And based upon your experience with patients, in addition to the physical pain, is it difficult for people who
- are always independent to need to have help with everything,
- 12 including bathing?
- 13 A It's a tremendous challenge. It's a challenge not only
- 14 for the individual who has lost their autonomy, but for their 15 caregivers who change from being a partner to a caregiver, so
- that it puts -- it provides a lot of challenges. But it can be 16
- 17 very difficult for the patients who want to do things on their own and they are just physically unable to.
- Q And here it says that Ms. Olson -- or Mr. Olson is 19
- 20 helping Ms. Olson with bathing, dressing, and as you said, is
- that difficult for caregiver as well? 21
- It's -- it becomes a full-time job, and it can 22
- emotionally very draining as well to see your loved one
- suffering and have having to do all -- not to mention having to
- do all the work around the house that might have been shared

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medications.

- And what are those designed to try to help with? 2
- A With her anxiety and depression, as well as sleep. 3 4 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the

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25

- 6 Q In October of 2018, it indicates that starting with one of these drugs she's experiencing nausea and that she's
- continuing to feel weak. "Pneumectomy two years ago. Has been weak and unable to climb stairs by herself since."
- So were these continuing issues from that surgery in 2016 through October of 2018, and through the present? 11
- 12 Yes.
- Q And it says, "Her husband, who was present, is very 13 frustrated and at his wits end." 14
- 15 It can be difficult for a caregiver who was in a marriage where they were able to share their companionship and 17 do activities together, when the spouse is essentially a 24-hour home care provider?
- 19 A It's a tremendous challenge.
 - THE COURT OFFICER: Judge.
 - MR. BLOCK: Can I have five minutes, your Honor?
- 22 THE COURT: Yes.
 - MR. BLOCK: Thank you.
 - (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the screen.)

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- before. 1
- 2 (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 3 screen.)
- Q And from later in 2018 to the present, have there been
- some CAT scans that have looked at Ms. Olson to see if there is
- 6 any progression in her disease?
- 7 A Yes.
- Q And we see a CT chest, a CAT scan report from Exhibit 8 9 338, which is in evidence.
- And what does it indicate about Ms. Olson and about 10 what's happening with her condition? 11
- A It shows that there's pleural thickening that has 12 gotten worse since the prior scan three months earlier. And it 13
- 14 was suspicious for progression or recurrence of her malignancy, 15 of her cancer coming back to that area.
- (Whereupon, a demonstrative aid was shown on the 16 17 screen.)
- 18 Q And in August of 2018, it indicated that Ms. Olson, who
- at this point in August of 2018 is 65-years old, that she went
- 20 to the emergency department with a severe anxiety attack. It
- says, "She mentions that she has been anxious over the past two
- 22 years. She was never treated for anxiety before. Per husband,
- she wakes up in the middle of the night complaining that she
- hears noises." And it talks about the different medications
- she's prescribed. And we have Xanax and a number of other

- Q January 24th, 2019, so this year. What does it indicate about Ms. Olson's mesothelioma in terms of the progression and her condition?
- A It is showing that -- the CT shows that there's more progression of pleural thickening and nodularity, and she
- continues to have the fluid in the right chest, which is not
- uncommon, but she has the mild fatigue. And now she's having
- some chest tightness and pain, which she -- I don't believe she
- was describing early on after she recovered from the surgery,
- but that's a concern that the tumor might be infiltrating the 10
- 11 chest wall.
- 12 On January 24th, 2019, when they reviewed Ms. Olson's
- bodily systems, does she -- is she basically having difficulty in every area; respiratory, psychiatric, gastrointestinal,
- musculoskeletal? 15
- A Yes. 16
- 17 And what is it about mesothelioma that causes this type of pain and discomfort, both mentally, physically in all areas?
- Well, I mean, it's a diagnosis that is -- basically 20 it's a fatal diagnosis, so that causes depression in most individuals. 21
- The shortness of breath is related to she only has one 22 lung. And the nausea, the weakness, a lot of this are also
- related to the fact that she has a cancer. And the cancer can
 - make people feel weak and nausea and have a decreased appetite.

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    Those are symptoms that are often related to cancer being
    present in the body.
 3
       Q And based upon your review of all the medical records
 4 and your experience and knowledge with the disease mesothelioma,
    do you have an opinion within a reasonable degree of medical
   certainty as to how long Donna Olson will continue to live with
    mesothelioma before she dies from this disease?
       A I mean, that's always challenging to be able to give
 8
    life expectancy. You can look at the literature and see how
    people have done after having the procedure she had and this
    cell type of cancer she had.
11
12
          With this type of surgery, the average life expectancy
    is usually about four years after the surgery. Given her
13
14
    relative young age, she's had all the treatments, she's been
    able to tolerate all the treatments, meaning she was able to
15
    complete the treatments, um, so, you know, obviously I don't
16
17
    have a crystal ball, but based on what it looks like, it looks
18
    like there might be increased tumor recurrence, which is very
19
    common, um, that it's about four years from when she first was
20
    diagnosed. So that's about another year or so.
21
       Q And based upon your knowledge and experience with the
22
    disease mesothelioma what are the types of symptoms and pain and
    suffering that Donna Olson is likely to experience in the months
    and weeks and days leading up to her death from mesothelioma?
25
       A She's going to develop more pain. She'll develop more
                                                      Page 2296
 1 shortness of breath. There's concern that the tumor will spread
    to the left pleura, and then she only has one lung, so that will
    lead to problems with more shortness of breath.
         She could develop what we call "air hunger", where she
    is literally hungry to get air in because she can't feel like
    she could take a deep breath in. The tumor can often, as it
    spreads in the chest wall, can be extraordinarily painful as it
 7
    invades the nerves.
 8
 9
          She'll have constitutional symptoms like weakness and
10
    nausea, decreased appetite. Eventually she'll become incapable
11
    of getting up, she'll be so weak, and will require -- she'll
12
    become bed bound and require total care, and eventually will
13
    pass away.
14
       Q Dr. Moline, we are out of time for today. I thank you
    very much for your testimony today.
15
              THE COURT: Thursday 9:30; correct?
16
              MR. BLOCK: Yes, your Honor.
17
              THE COURT: Jury, tomorrow I'll be handling other
18
      matters. I'll see you Thursday at 9:30. Thank you so much.
19
20
             (Whereupon, the trial was adjourned to Thursday,
       March 7, 2019 at 9:30 a.m.)
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